WI
DA

Greene County Public Library (Ohio)
0 53 85 0780429 1

# HISTORY OF MADISON

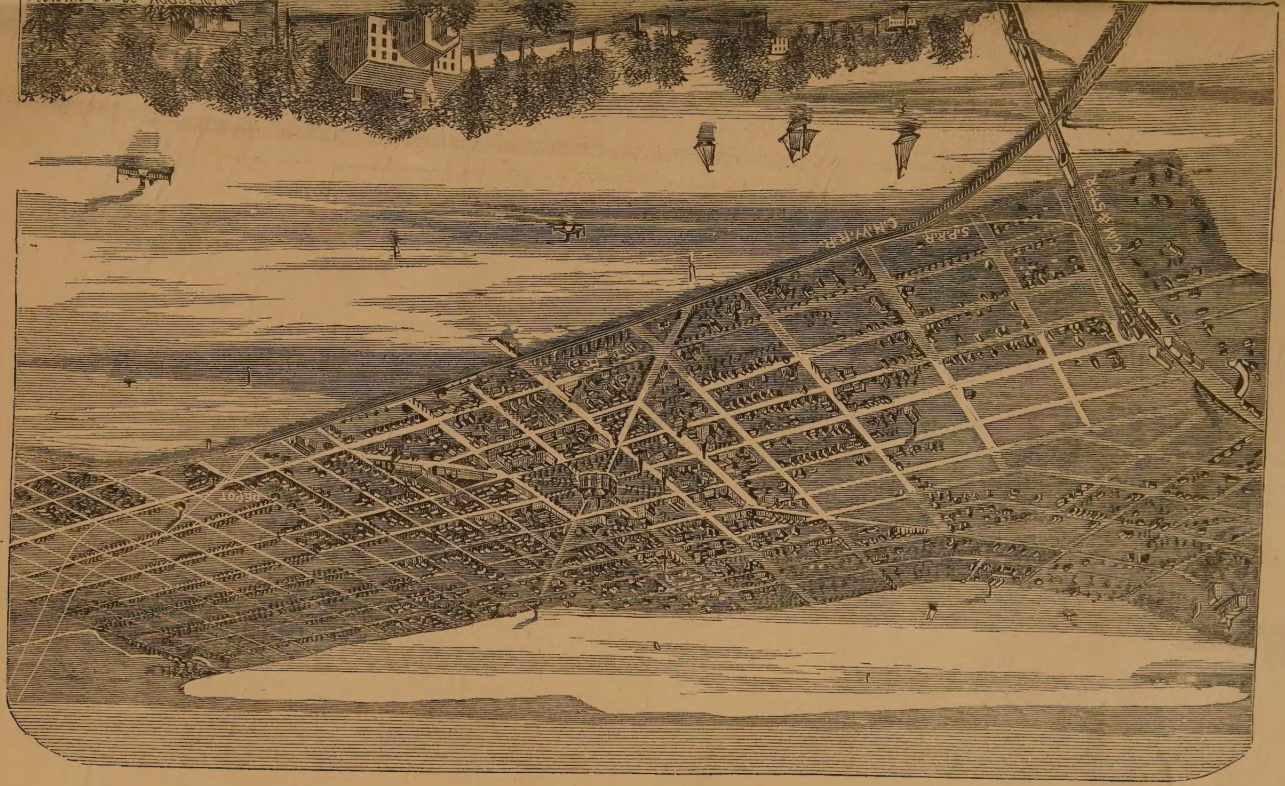
AND SURROUNDINGS

W.J. PARK
&CO.
Booksellers
Stationers
& Book
BINDERS.
Madison
Wis.

Greene Co.Room 977.5 Dane

Madison, Dane County and
surrounding towns
ABU-4950 40.00

GREENE COUNTY ROOM
GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY
76 EAST MARKET STREET
XENIA, OH 45385


CHESTNUT
SPRUCE
CHERRY
PINE

# MADISON,

# DANE COUNTY

AND

## SURROUNDING TOWNS;

BEING A

## HISTORY AND GUIDE

TO PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY AND HISTORICAL NOTE FOUND IN THE TOWNS OF DANE COUNTY AND SURROUNDINGS, INCLUDING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNS, AND EARLY INTERCOURSE OF THE SETTLERS WITH THE INDIANS, THEIR CAMPS, TRAILS, MOUNDS, ETC.

WITH A COMPLETE LIST OF

## COUNTY SUPERVISORS AND OFFICERS,

AND

LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS, MADISON VILLAGE AND CITY COUNCIL.

---

*ILLUSTRATED.*

---

MADISON, WIS.:
PUBLISHED BY WM. J. PARK & CO.,
BOOKSELLERS, STATIONERS AND BINDERS,
11 KING STREET.
1877.

COPYRIGHT.
WM. J. PARK & CO.
1877.

DAVID ATWOOD, STEREOTYPER AND PRINTER,
MADISON, WIS.

# PREFACE.

In presenting to our readers the History of Madison, Dane County and Surrounding Towns, we do it with some degree of gratification;—not because we have the presumption to conceive that we have issued a complete work, or that it is free from errors; but simply because we have had so many kind helps rendered us in bringing the work up to its present condition, and without flattering ourselves that we have composed some grand strain, or even been in full harmony with all our parts, we have, at least, struck the key-note from which we have built up *good*, if not *square* work.

To show that our work was needed, it is only necessary for us to call the reader's attention to the many chapters so freely contributed by many of our citizens, who, making no pretensions to any great literary acumen, have related the facts and incidents of their towns in terms sometimes unfinished, but never lacking power and simplicity to express what they knew, thus commending to our admiration the free and unvarnished manner with which the story of pioneer life, trials and sufferings is related, and the evident delight taken in looking back on those difficulties, to enact them over again.

We think our work has been instrumental in saving from oblivion much that would have passed unheeded in the annals of the early settlement and development of our county. Our citizens, in their early pioneer life, forgetting that they were makers of history, saved comparatively little of the past dates or records.

History by towns has not, we believe, been published in this state before, and we feel certain that no surer way could be devised for reaching facts than the plan we have adopted, as there are none better able to write a family history than one of its members. To the writers of the ensuing chapters we suggested the following subjects, which our readers will see have been conscientiously adhered to: The early settlement and organization of each town; pioneer trials and difficulties; scenic beauty and hygiene; industrial pursuits and markets; schools and churches; early intercourse with the Indians; camps, trails, graves or mounds, etc.

The work has exceeded, by several hundred pages, our agreement with subscribers, but having been assured of remuneration therefor by an increase of names on our subscription list, we have decided to make no advance in price.

The adjacent towns have been added to our book at the suggestion of citizens of those places, and it is proper that they should be, as socially and commercially there are no boundary lines between us; and with all the cordiality of neighbors, it affords us pleasure to invite the attention of the reader to these chapters not only as a

partial exhibit of their industrial pursuits and business tact, but also as evidence that we are linked together by a stronger tie than sectional lines.

The chapter on Lake Koshkonong is from the pen of Prof. Kumlien, a scientist of no mean mark either in this country or Europe. Although he has devoted a life time to the study of natural history, and his labors been heralded abroad, there are but few of our citizens that even know that this seer is living at our very doors. Forty long years has he quietly and unobtrusively spent in studying the botanical life of many of our plants, as well as giving us a clearer insight into the ornithology of this continent, and we feel our duty but begun in our meager effort to make these facts known.

The "Historical Introduction" will be found full of interesting dates and facts, as also the chapter on "Personal Recollections," while the list of County Officers, obtained at considerable labor, and the only list published, will be used as a useful reference.

Our county is the largest in population and wealth of any other in our state, except Milwaukee, and is largely on the increase. The healthful character of our climate, together with our rich and varied displays of scenic beauty beheld every where around us, is bringing hundreds to our doors who are not only invigorated by our pure and bracing atmosphere, but enchanted with the landscape grandeur that foreign lands but tamely mimic. Historical places point to ages as yet comparatively unknown, and if a people, whom we designate as Mound Builders, lived here, it is but right to infer that they were neither ignorant of our climate or our scenery, but as is shown, left larger evidences of their labors here than in any other section of this country.

We have been much gratified at the cordiality with which our citizens have entered into the enterprise, and take this opportunity of offering them our grateful acknowledgments, and especially to the writers of the different chapters, for their kind and unselfish interest in collecting the many facts and pleasing incidents therein related. Such men are, as a rule, the bone and sinew of a community, and never weary in well doing. We are also indebted to the following gentlemen, who have made it a matter of interest and labor to aid us in our undertaking: Hon. Simeon Mills, Wm. A. Wheeler, E. M. Williamson, E. Burdick, Geo. B. Smith, Wm. Vroman, N. T. Parkinson, Wm. Welch, S. W. Botkin, Hon. Lyman C. Draper, Prof. S. H. Carpenter, Prof. R. B. Anderson, D. S. Durrie (who aided us materially, by the use of several of his MSS.), Phillip Barry, (for the use of county records,) Gabriel Bjornson, P. B. Parsons, O. S. Holum, Hon. J. A. Johnson, Gen. S. Cadwallader, Judge N. F. Hyer, Judge J. T. Clark, Capt. John Nader, Jas. R. Stuart, (for draught of design on back of the volume), N. P. Jones, (for photographs to the engraver), N. T. Hawes, John Corscot (for city records), and others.

W. J. P.

# CONTENTS.

## CITY OF MADISON.


| Chapter. | Page. | Chapter | Page. |
|---|---|---|---|
| I—In the beginning, . . | 9 | VII—Newspaper History, | 109 |
| II—Locating the Capital, | 20 | VIII—Merchants & Bankers, | 124 |
| III—Pioneers, . . . . | 40 | X—Schools, Literature, etc. | 146 |
| IV—State University, . . | 67 | XI—Madison Homes, . . | 167 |
| V—Historical Society . | 83 | XII—Visitors and Resorts . | 176 |
| VI—Churches and Pastors, | 95 | XIII—Mounds and Relics, . | 184 |


## DANE COUNTY TOWNS.


HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION:—Characteristics of the county—Naming of the Lakes—County before its settlement—Streams—Population—Churches—Schools—Property value—Railroads. . . 203

DATES AND FACTS:—*First* justice, election and judges; *first* books and stationery, juries, indictment, chancery suit, wolf bounty, licenses and treasurer; *first* jail, circus, metal casting and post office box; *first* woolen mill, blacksmith and auctioneer—Naming of Aztalan—Early assessment of lands and tax—Completion of public buildings—Mineral waters, etc, . . . . . 210

ALBION—Prof A. R. Cornwall, , . . . . . 283

BERRY—Hon. Otto Kerl and Wm. S. Crowther, Esq., . 266

BLACK EARTH—Clarence Burnett and A. J. Fullerton, . . 519

BLOOMING GROVE—James Kavanaugh, Esq., . . . 532

BLUE MOUNDS—John C. Ward and Ira Isham, Esqrs., . 236

BRISTOL—J. R. Davis, Esq., . . . . . 380

BURKE—John Douglas, Esq., . . . . . 393

CAMBRIDGE—Hon. Geo. Dow and A. B. Carpenter, Esq., . 366

CHRISTIANA—Chas. N. Brown and others, . . . 351

COTTAGE GROVE—James Bell, Esq., . . . . 276

CROSS PLAINS—Henry Winkle, Esq., . . . . . 440

DANE—Hon. Robert Steele and Mansfield Arries, . . 463

DEERFIELD—Hon. K. O. Heimdal, . . . . . 432

DUNN—William E. Colladay, Esq, . . . . . 488

DUNKIRK—Prof. Geo. W. Currier, . . . . . 347

FITCHBURG—Dr. Wm. H. Fox and Wm. Vroman, Esq., 448

MADISON—Hon. H. A. Tenney, . . . . . 539

MAZOMANIE—Henry Howarth and Henry Z. Moulton, Esqrs., 592

MEDINA—Frank L. Morrill, Esq., . . . . . 217

MIDDLETON—A. B. Parmenter, Esq., . . . . . 589

MONTROSE—H. E. Story, Esq., PAOLI—H. S. Utley, Esq., 474

MOUNT VERNON—Dr. W. J. Donald, . . . . 312

OREGON—Dr. I. Howe and T. E. Thompson, . . . . 505
PERRY—Gabriel Bjornson, . . . . . 291
PLEASANT SPRINGS—Prof. A. R. Ames, . . . . . 371
PRIMROSE—Hon. G. Tollefson, . . . . . 526
ROXBURY—Hon. John T. Clark, . . . . . 495
RUTLAND—Hon. S. W. Graves, . . . . . 387
SPRINGDALE—James P. McPherson, Esq., . . . . . 306
SPRINGFIELD—E. Harding, Esq., . . . . . 328
STOUGHTON—Prof. Geo. W. Currier, . . . . . 338
SUN PRAIRIE—Dr. C. G. Cross, . . . . . 313
VERMONT— . . . . . 588
VERONA—Donald McDonald and J. T. Hawes, . . . . 571
VIENNA—Hon. A. A. Boyce, . . . . . 563
WEST BLUE MOUNDS—Dr. R. W. Jones, . . . . . 244
WESTPORT AND VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE—E.L. Noyes, Esq., 298
WINDSOR—Sherman Brothers and H. A. Lewis, . . . . 249
YORK— . . . . . 570

TOWNS ADJACENT.

BROOKLYN—J. W. Haseltine, Esq., . . . . . 632
EDGERTON—E. A. Burdick, Esq., . . . . . 650
EVANSVILLE, Rock County—D. Johnson, L. Leonard, J. West, 617
LAKE KOSHKONONG—Prof. T. L. Kumlien, . . . . 628
LODI—Hon. J. T. Clark, . . . . . 636

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS, . . . . . 559

COUNTY SUPERVISORS AND OFFICERS, . . . . . 655
LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS, . . . . . 660
MADISON VILLAGE AND CITY COUNCIL, . . . . 662

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF MADISON, - 2
MRS. EBEN PECK, - - - - - 25
LAKE MONONA, - - - - - - 31
KING STREET, - - - - - - - 35
FIRST HOUSE IN MADISON, - - 43
HON. SIMEON MILLS, - - - - 49
STATE UNIVERSITY, - - - - - 75
HON. LYMAN C. DRAPER, - - 87
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, - - 104
HON. DAVID ATWOOD, - - - - 107
STATE JOURNAL BLOCK, - - - 113
D. K. TENNEY, ESQ., - - - - 119
WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL, - 131
CITY HALL AND U.S. POSTOFFICE 141
MADISON CITY HIGH SCHOOL, - 151
ELM SIDE, Dr. Bowen's residence 169
ROSEBANK COTTAGE, - - - - 173
YATCH ON LAKE MONONA, - - 177
ANGLEWORM STATION, - - - - 181
MARIETTA, - - - - - - - - 185
KNIVES, AWLS AND BRACELETS, 189
PORPHYRY AND GREENSTONE, - 196
DRINKING CUP, - - - - - - 197
SEPULCHRAL URNS, - - - - 199
MAP OF DANE COUNTY, - - - 201
OLD COURT HOUSE, - - - - - 215
INDIAN CAMP, - - - - - - - 271
ALBION ACADEMY, - - - - - 285
OPERA HOUSE, STOUGHTON, - 311
STOUGHTON WAGON WORKS, - 345
EARLY AGRICULTURAL SCENE, 359
LAKE KEGONSA AND STEAMER, 377

# HISTORY OF MADISON.

## CHAPTER I.

### IN THE BEGINNING.

Soon after Pere Marquette made his way to the Mississippi, from the Lakes, this Western country was overrun by Canadian French *voyageurs*, whose country, language and religion, were considerable aids to trade among the tribes of Indians, recently gathered into the fold of the Catholic church. There is no positive evidence that they were on this identical spot, but a probability, all but overwhelming, suggests their presence in the Lake country, because the Indians were here, and, moreover, because the conformation of the country, the large and beautiful lakes, and other well known features, specially adapted this particular locality for the supply of peltry. There was a mission house at or near Green Bay before Marquette's world-famous canoe voyage by the Fox and Wisconsin rivers; but there is no mention by which our topography is identified until more than a century later, in the records of Capt. Carver, as published after 1768. His "Travels through the interior

parts of North America" make unmistakable references to the Blue Mounds, which he knew, probably from the Indians, were supposed to be rich in lead. The captain shrewdly suspected the trappers of having purposely misrepresented the territory for their better security as to ulterior designs of their own. The Jesuit maps of the Lake Superior country, prepared a century earlier in Paris, were very good, considering the limited facilities of the priests by whom the information was supplied, but the operations of the Canadian *voyageurs*, jealously defending their trading privileges after their old home had passed under the rule of strangers, would be subject to very different rules.

The Sacs and Foxes held this territory from time immemorial, so far as we have any positive knowledge, until the year 1825, when the Nations sold their rights to all lands east of the Mississippi. Unfortunately, for the red men, they were persuaded by some of their leaders to play fast and loose with their treaty, and after the first removal, there were almost continuous returns, and on many occasions marauding parties inflicted damage on property and life by way of asserting a right to their old hunting grounds. In the year 1831 things had become unendurable, and it was found necessary to drive the Indians back across the newly agreed upon barrier, the Mississippi. The Winnebago outbreak and the Black Hawk war, the first named in 1831–2, and the latter concurrent with or immediately following, were parts of the same

scheme of aggression, intended to recover for the tribes the lands already sold and delivered by their chiefs and themselves. Eventually the Indians were repressed and forced back with a firm hand.

The first attempt at settlement in this county was made in 1827–8, by Col. Ebenezer Brigham, who died in this city at the advanced age of seventy-two, in the year 1861. He visited Wisconsin in 1822, but it was not until five years later that he came hither to make a permanent abode. The lead mines were the chief attraction, but after a brief sojourn at Platte river, on what is known as the Block House branch, he and his party retired to Galena, not being strong enough to hold their own in a country possessed by hostile Indians. Early in 1828, Col. Brigham and his associates took up a position in the Blue Mounds, still mining for lead. Food supplies, at first procured from Galena, were afterwards obtained from Fort Winnebago, and it was while returning from Fort Winnebago that the beauties of the Lake country were first discovered by Col. Brigham. The Indians had told him about the lakes, but the beautiful reality vastly exceeded their description. The pioneer is not always capable of appreciating the picturesque, but the colonel predicted the greatness of the village that would be built where Madison now stands, being impressed by the charms of the scene, and he even assumed that the capital of the Territory and State would be here located.

The first comers to this county were widely severed

from their nearest friends. Dodgeville was the residence of their next door neighbor, and to the southeast they could call upon somewhat distant acquaintances on the O'Plaine river, hardly twelve miles from Chicago. Col. Juneau was located near the junction of the Milwaukee and Menomonee rivers, laying the foundations of the beautiful Cream City, which is now the commercial metropolis of Wisconsin. It will be seen at once that every settlement in those days had to rely mainly upon its own means of defense against the Indians, who were established in populous villages in every direction. As a rule there was a good understanding, and from time to time treaties were made defining the boundaries of the new comers, but the stipulations of the natives were extended and broken repeatedly. So slowly did the people migrate hitherwards, that Col. Brigham was still the nearest settler when the capital was located, and his residence was distant twenty-five miles. Gov. Lewis Cass, the chief executive of Michigan Territory, had jurisdiction from the earliest settlement, and he made Col. Brigham the first justice ever appointed here, but his office was almost a sinecure during the four years that he retained the honor. The difficulties under which these hardy miners opened up their lucrative calling cannot readily be made to appear to the modern reader. The traveler of to-day is transported in a few hours from Madison to Chicago, can dispatch the business of the day in the metropolis of the northwest and return, without a

sense of fatigue or a stain of travel, to his home at night, but there was no such luxury possible to the adventurous colonel and his companions who sent their product to Green Bay, Galena or Chicago, and who had not a wagon track to guide them toward the village which has now expanded to the colossal proportions of Chicago. That mighty Babylon was then an insignificant village, in which there seemed to be no probability that the people would master the difficulties incident to the position and render it habitable in the better sense. The old colonel was naturally and fitly included in the earliest attempts to organize a government in this territory, when the severance from Michigan was effected in 1836, and for very many years he was identified with the succeeding forms of administration.

A trip from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien, on horseback, was undertaken for the first time in May, 1829, by Judge Doty, afterwards Governor, and two attorneys of the first named settlement, Henry S. Baird and Morgan L. Martin, guided by a Menomonee Indian whose acquaintance with the country was by no means perfect; but their seven days pilgrimage made them conversant with the topographical features of Lake Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, our own Four Lakes, the site of our city, the Blue Mounds and Dodgeville, besides the vast range of country included in their interesting detour. There had been many transits by the Fox and Wisconsin to the Mississippi, since the days of Pere Marquette and his *voy-*

*ageurs*, but this, so far as can be known, was the first journey made by white men overland. Three years later Judge Doty again visited this spot, having been much impressed by its beauty, and being desirous to see a town started in the midst of so much natural grandeur.

The ambitious designs of Black Hawk, who had obtained an ascendency over the braves of his own and of neighboring tribes, led to a disastrous war with the Indians in 1832, as already indicated, and the settlers of this portion of Wisconsin were not backward during that eventful period. There was an actual alliance between the deceitful Winnebagoes and the more immediate followers of Black Hawk, the Sacs and Foxes, some time before hostilities were openly commenced; but the savages were full of protestations as to their peaceful and friendly disposition. Col. Brigham could not be hoodwinked by their flatteries, and he, with the coöperation of his little army of industry, built a block house fort, on the prairie, near Blue Mounds, as part of their system of defense. When hostile demonstrations were anticipated, the whole of the settlers near at hand, with their families, congregated within the palisade that surrounded the main buildings. The Winnebagoes were still persistent as to their friendship and alliance, until the beginning of June, 1832, although there is good reason for believing that they were supplying information and help to their more warlike neighbors, long before that date. Preparations for war were made,

regardless of the Winnebago promises, as it was well known that Black Hawk's followers would cause trouble without much delay. The commanding officer at Mound Fort, Capt. John Sherman, saw the probability of war to be so imminent that he communicated his apprehensions to Col. Dodge, afterwards governor, and the colonel marched to the reënforcement of Sherman with two hundred men, collected from other and less exposed positions in the mining districts. Shortly after this timely aid arrived, James Aubrey, the first commander at the fort, was killed near the residence of Col. Brigham, while procuring water from a spring. The Sac Indians killed him, being guided to their ambush by the treacherous Winnebagoes, within a few days of the time when they were most lavish in expressions of friendship. Their part in the murder was surmised, but not known, at the time of Aubrey's death. A second ambush was planned, and succeeded on the 20th of the month, fourteen days after the death of Aubrey. The savages having made their dispositions for the purpose, caused some few of their body to reveal themselves to the occupants of the fort. Lieut. Force, accompanied by a comrade named Green, the latter leaving his wife and children in the stockade, made a reconnoisance, in the course of which they were decoyed by the retiring Indians into a trap laid for the destruction of a much larger body. Force and Green fought and maneuvered with bravery and skill, but they were so completely enmeshed that there was no possibility of escape. The

savages mutilated their victims in a shameful manner after death. The watch worn by Lieut. Force was subsequently recovered from the body of a dead Indian, by a trader named Wallis Rowan. The red man, overtaken by fatigue, had apparently lain down to rest, and in that way was destroyed by a prairie fire. The efforts and the deaths of Force and Green were seen from Mound Fort.

Notwithstanding these cruel and purposeless successes, the Indians were pursued by the main body of settlers and troops, under the command of Col. Dodge, over the Crawfish, near Aztalan, across the site of this city, to the north end of Monona, and at Catfish Ford, a brisk engagement with the rear guard of the flying foe, taught the Indians what they might expect in the way of punishment. One Indian was shot sitting upon the newly-made grave of his squaw, having calmly taken that position apparently with the hope that he would thus readily join her in the Happy Hunting Grounds. Eventually the Black Hawk war was ended by decisive battles, the only kind of argument that can be conclusive with savages, and nearly the whole of the red skins that had been in arms were killed, captured or dispersed. Black Hawk and his accomplice, the Prophet, who had buoyed up the tribes with delusive promises, were surrendered to General Street, at Prairie du Chien, on the 27th of August, 1832, by the chiefs of their own people, One-Eyed Decorra and Cha-E. Tar. The treaty with the Sacs and Foxes, made at Rock Island in September of that

year, happily terminated the Indian difficulties of Wisconsin.

Shortly after the Black Hawk war had been crushed out, the attractions of this site brought settlers here, and on the 15th of October, 1832, an encampment was made by Capt. Low, James Halpin and Archibald Crisman, on Mendota Lake ridge. There were numerous Indians then located on the city site, having been concentrated here by the facilities offered by a French trader, whose abode was on the ground now crossed by Johnson street. Rowan, the Indian trader into whose hands the watch of Lieut. Force fell as lawful spoil, had long before taken up his location in this neighborhood. Mr. Abel Rasdall, a native of Kentucky, another early resident, commenced his Wisconsin experiences as a lead miner, and thence diverging into the avocation of an Indian trader, was connected by marriage with a Winnebago woman. After her death, he married another of the same tribe, but she eventually migrated west with her own people, and her husband was not entirely inconsolable. Rasdall had been for a considerable time a prosperous trader among the Indians before the war commenced, but during the continuance of hostilities with Black Hawk, Abel Rasdall was one of the readiest and most daring of our volunteers. He continued a resident in Dane county until his death at Token Creek, in 1857, when he was fifty-two years old. After the conclusion of his Indian engagements, Mr. Rasdall took to himself a wife of his own race in this

city, and raised a family as the result of that marriage. He had traded in Dane county, and more especially around the Four Lakes, since the year before the Black Hawk war.

From the time of the first colony planted in Illinois by La Salle, in 1678-9, the Canadian voyagers and colonists had customarily intermarried with the Indians with, as a rule, no other result than that the more civilized race was absorbed by the other, and the result did not exhibit a corresponding increase of capacity to appropriate the advantages of civilization. Some of the half breeds were sharp and dangerous, but few are known as estimable men. One of the earliest traders here seems to have been an exception to that rule. His name was Michel St. Cyr, son of a Canadian Frenchman, by a Winnebago. Living always on the frontier and among the Indians, he had not participated in the advantages of schools, but he bore an excellent character as a man of veracity, a virtue not always found associated with civilization, although certainly a part of the highest. St. Cyr was one of the traders in the Four Lake country, dividing his attention between the traffic by which he made money and a small garden, that gave him and his Winnebago children a subsistence. His cabin served occasionally as a caravanserai and something more, when travelers visited the lakes. Eventually St. Cyr sold out his improvements to Col. Slaughter, and retired to the Winnebago reservation in Iowa. His sons were considered worthless, even by the In-

dians, and that atom of civilization was utterly erased. The F. F. V.'s would not trace their lineage to Pocahontas, if the husband of that lady had been domiciliated among the tribes, and if the result of that marriage had been given over to Indian customs and general training.

Preliminary steps for the survey of the lands in this locality were taken by the general government in 1834, and before the end of the year, that duty had been completed. The survey and plat of this city were made under special directions from Judge Doty, who had long before that time been impressed by the beauty of this site and its surroundings. The further proceedings of the early settlers must be dealt with in a future chapter.

## CHAPTER II.

### LOCATING THE CAPITAL.

Settlement had made little progress when the question arose, "where shall we fix our capital?" Suddenly, from all parts of the territory, arose the voice of indomitable advocates, and when the first legislature was convened at Belmont, there was a display of log-rolling such as could hardly be excelled. Judge Doty, who had traversed nearly the whole territory on horseback or in his canoe, accoutred "with his green blanket and shot gun," might have been trusted to make the selection, but for the fact, that he had long since decided in his own mind, and had joined with Gov. Mason of Michigan, in purchasing the site occupied by this city for $1,500. Fond du Lac, Dubuque, in Iowa, which was part of our territory, Portage, Belmont, Helena, Racine, Milwaukee, Platteville, Mineral Point, Cassville, Green Bay, Koshkonong, Belleview, Wisconsinapolis, Wisconsin City and Peru, were all advocated with unscrupulous zeal, and every one of the rival cities, many of which, like Madison, lived only on paper, had anxious friends who were ready to abandon their own chances for the time, to unite on any of the others, only to defeat the most dangerous competitor. Madison was, perhaps,

championed in the same way as most of the other cities of the brain, but with more success. Corner lots were much in request, among the men whose votes could make or unmake a capital at Belmont, and lobbying was the rule. It is tacitly admitted by many, and openly stated by some, that Madison might not have been selected as the site, had not Judge Doty permitted many legislators and their bosom friends, a pecuniary interest in the venture which Gov. Mason and he had made. The majority in the legislative council, as it was, proved to be only one in an aggregate of thirteen, and in the house of representatives, only four in an aggregate of twenty-six. The margin was too small for comfort, but it was sufficient. Thus it happened, that after an exciting contest, the peninsula between the third and fourth of the Four Lakes was chosen as the home of our territorial government, and became the site of the handsome city which we claim has become the admired of all observers.

The time in which this lively conflict occurred was especially full of land speculators. The public domain had enriched hundreds, and millions were hoping that the same process might cover all their needs forever. It was being realized in 1836 that there were blanks as well as prizes in the lottery, and a collapse was felt to be imminent. The founders of paper cities were snatching a new eloquence from despair, and this location of the capital was one of many schemes on which fortunes depended. The

elegance of some of the maps, the fervor of some of their expounders, might have charmed an impartial legislator, could a phenomenon so rare have been found in the territory of Wisconsin, to record his vote for either of the projects. Happily, the proposition of Judge Doty won a controlling interest, and three commissioners, chosen by joint ballot, were entrusted with the task of selecting plans, making contracts and superintending the erection of the capitol.

The sparse settlement of the territory generally, and of this section more particularly, cannot be better illustrated than by recording a few of the experiences of travelers, about the time of, and soon after the passage of the act which determined the seat of government. The sessions of the legislative assembly were appointed to be held at Burlington, in Des Moines county, now Iowa, until March 4, 1839, unless the government buildings here should be completed earlier; and it was necessary to bring from a distance every man that was wanted to assist in the work of preparation. The commissioners chosen for the task before named were Augustus A. Bird, acting commissioner, James Duane Doty, treasurer, and John F. O'Neill. The sum appropriated for the erection was $20,000, a very small amount, considering the difficulties under which the work was to be undertaken, but help was expected from congress.

In the month following the choice of commissioners, that is to say in January, 1837, Madison was visited from Milwaukee, by a young lawyer and land

surveyor, since known to fame as the Hon. Moses M. Strong, of Mineral Point, who from that time has been associated with the progress of Wisconsin by his identification with railroads, river improvements, and other public works, as well as by repeated terms of service in various offices, and in the legislature of the territory, as member and president in the constitutional convention to form a state constitution, and in the house of representatives of the state, for some time speaker. Mr. Strong, accompanied by Mr. Marsh and Mr. Potter, explored this section of country, and after much trouble, found the locality on which the capitol now stands; but they were not quite so fortunate in discovering Michel St. Cyr's cabin, where they hoped to obtain quarters, so that they were compelled to pass the night without shelter or food for their horses or themselves, on the spot where Ashton post office now stands, in the town of Springfield. From that bivouac, the party made their course by the Blue Mounds to Mineral Point. Mr. Strong was employed, in February of the same year, by Judge Doty, to survey and stake off capitol square, and some of the adjoining lots in this city, and the haste with which the work must needs be pushed through would not allow time to be lost in waiting for genial weather. Mr. John Catlin and Mr. George Messersmith accompanied the surveyor on this expedition, and Mr. Josiah A. Noonan joined the party on the way. The commissariat department was much better cared for than it had been in the preceding month, as Mr. Strong

and his party stayed with St. Cyr, and were probably regaled with the half-breed's standing dish, musk rat pie, while the actual survey was progressing. The several days journey to and from this city were thus recorded: The first day out from Mineral Point, the party reached Mr. John Messersmith's, just twelve miles east. On the 18th of February, they called at Brigham's, where they procured provisions, and then pushed on to Haney's Creek, near the Cross Plains station on Black Earth Creek, spending that night at Steel's. The following day the party arrived at St. Cyr's, early enough to permit of the work being commenced. St. Cyr's place was so far from the scene of their labors, that the party camped out part of the time, despite the inclemency of the season, but heavy and incessant falls of snow compelled them to desist from their labors for many days, making the half-breed's cabin their headquarters. After completing their survey for the time, Mr. Strong and his party returned by way of Wallis Rowan's, who lived where Poynette now stands, about twelve miles south from Fort Winnebago. Going by the Wisconsin river, the party reached Helena, and thence struck across to Mineral Point. The scanty narrative indicates the nakedness of the land; but the work just accomplished led the way to the building of numerous habitations. Other travelers passing over various routes toward the mines, or with this city as their objective point, reveal the existence of Prairie Village where Waukesha now stands, and also the intermediate halting place at Fort

MRS. EBEN PECK.

Atkinson, *en route* to the Catfish river. Mr. Alex. F. Pratt and Mr. Augustus Story made that route in February, 1837, shortly after the survey party had set out on their return to Mineral Point, and the new comers had been twenty-four hours without food, when they left their camp near the present site of Dunkirk. The men who went exploring in those days had no reason to expect luxurious living. A few cold roast potatoes, unceremoniously found in a wigwam from which the owners were absent, were consumed with abundant relish at noon after their long fast, and no other food was obtained until the next day, when they discovered St. Cyr's cabin on Fourth lake. The travelers had camped without supper, in a ravine near where the State University now stands. The savory musk rat was a treat, by comparison with such short commons, and the party started for Blue Mounds well prepared for a journey. Similar lodgings and fare would not now be considered tempting, but pioneer life does not encourage a too critical taste.

More spacious and comfortable quarters were to be made ready on the site of Madison by Mr. Eben Peck and his wife, Rosaline. Two months only had elapsed since the second visit of the surveying party, when the Peck family started from Blue Mounds to open a pioneer boarding house here. The snow had not gone when Mr. Peck commenced the erection of his premises, on land bought immediately after the location of the capitol; but Mr. Catlin had already

caused a log house to be erected where the post office now stands. Owing to an accident; the interior of Mr. Catlin's house was destroyed by fire before it could be occupied; thus it happened that the Peck hostelry was the first residence in Madison.

There were some rough and ready specimens of humanity then on hand in this region. Two Frenchmen, who had associated with a party of Winnebago Indians in the Blue Mounds during the winter, were employed to build the house, the work being superintended by Abraham Wood, who subsequently put up a saw mill at Baraboo. Wood was at that time living at Winnequah, then known as Strawberry Point, where he enjoyed the distinction of being the son-in-law of De Kaury, son of a Frenchman, a Winnebago chief. Wood bore an excellent reputation, but some of his surroundings were very hard cases. One of the Frenchmen was shot, in a dispute about land, by Berry Haney, a rival claimant, and generally, life was but cheaply held in those troubled times.

Snow and the howling of wolves awakened Mrs. Peck from her slumbers in a tent, three miles from Madison, on Saturday, April 15, 1837, and she pushed on through the storm to the site of her more substantial dwelling, where she sat down under a tree in her wagon, twenty-five miles from the nearest white residents at Blue Mounds, and nearly one hundred miles from the settlers at Milwaukee. The building was not far enough advanced to satisfy the demands of the hostess, and a temporary habitation was constructed,

to serve until the larger place could be comfortably floored and plastered. The little hotel was speedily crowded with guests. Milwaukee and far away New York were represented by visitors, and even England had contributed its quota to the roll of occupants. The comforts of the establishment were substantial from the first, although necessarily the bill of fare consisted of such articles, as could be transported from considerable distances; but very soon the table was a marvel to beholders, and cleanliness, the first requisite towards elegance, was a welcome feature from the beginning. The grand dining room was as well ventilated as the winds of heaven could make it, the hospitable board being spread in the open air to meet the requirements of some fifteen new arrivals. Judge Doty, Col. Brigham and Commissioner Bird, with others whose names are historical, were frequent visitors, and the unfinished building was tapestried with bed sheets to furnish sleeping accommodations. The troubles incidental to pioneer housekeeping are always of interest to people living in the west, and, with few exceptions, the men who sought accommodation then in Madison made themselves completely at home, hunting, fishing and otherwise during their leisure, increasing the variety of the table. Judge, afterwards Governor, Doty gave an excellent example of helpfulness by assisting a party of amateur plasterers to make the kitchen habitable, and one day's work under his direction effected much. The cheery spirit thus indicated was worth more than all the material

aid, as it nerved the sturdy matron to master the situation. Before long the sounds of gayety within that building would have been a surprise to the languid pleasure seekers in much more costly mansions. Really, at all times, the pleasure that can be found in palace or cottage depends upon glad hearts, and not upon the presence of luxurious viands.

Madison was then so great on various maps that it might well have been matter for surprise that the legislative assembly had been convened for its first session at Belmont, and for its subsequent sessions, until 1839, at Burlington, now in Iowa; but, as will readily be understood, it is far more easy to construct a city on paper than to build one on the solid earth. Castles in the air are very often erected before breakfast, but there is just one drawback, that nobody ever dines in such structures. Madison city was then, *vide* prospectuses, the metropolitan center of cities, corresponding to the seven hills of Rome, when, in fact, it was only a village *in futuro*.

The beauty of the surrounding country, with its twelve lakes, might well have concentrated attention upon Dane county, and the four lakes in Yahara, or Catfish valley, lying almost in a direct line from northwest to southeast, could not fail to be recognized as the regal crown of all this natural loveliness. Kegonsa, or First Lake, lowest of the four bodies of water, covers five square miles, having a circumference of nine miles and a half, its longest diameter being over three miles, and its shortest fully two.

LAKE MONONA, OR THIRD LAKE — LOOKING TOWARD LAKE SIDE.

Waubesa, the Second Lake, is three miles and a half above Kegonsa, in the towns of Dunn and Blooming Grove. This lake has an average depth of twelve feet of crystal clear water, through which the pebbly bottom can be seen as if through glass. This beautiful sheet of crystal is three and a half miles long by about two miles across. Monona, the lovely Third Lake, is only seven-eighths of a mile above Waubesa, covering an area of six square miles, being six and a half miles long by two broad, and the strip of land which divides this lake from Mendota, the Fourth Lake, is the site of the capital of Wisconsin. The painter's pencil can alone do justice to the scene; words fail to convey an adequate conception of the picturesque effect which is mirrored to the brain, when an artist looks from the high ground, or still better, from the cupola of the capitol, upon the hills and lakes which seem to rival the loveliness of the moon and stars in the azure firmament under which they are now lying silvered before us. Mendota is by far the largest of the lakes, as it covers an area of more than twenty square miles. Its longest diameter is six miles, and its breadth is fully four. Could the whole of the legislature have been brought to this spot in the spring or summer of 1836, it may be hoped that there would have been less scope for the log-rolling process at Belmont, in the succeeding winter, which came within one vote of negativing the proposition to make Madison the capital of the territory; but perhaps even then it would have been difficult.

The commissioners charged with the erection of the capitol building, in which the functions of government were to be undertaken, were not dilatory in commencing their duties, and by the tenth of June there were thirty-six workmen upon the ground, under the direction of Commissioner Augustus A. Bird. The party had traveled with their teams from Milwaukee, making their roads as they came, fording streams, and threading their devious way through occasional swamps, much of the time under a drenching rain, for just ten days, to effect a transit which is now daily accomplished in little more than four hours. The sun gleamed out once upon the travelers, and the spot, made glorious by that welcome illumination, has ever since been known as Sun Prairie. Other workmen speedily followed, and it is interesting to note, in their several narratives, the progress in settlement along the traveled route, as the summer wore on. Early in August there was a log house and an Indian camping ground at Prairieville, formerly Prairie Village, now Waukesha, and five miles beyond that location, a log house occupied by a family named Pratt, which had settled on 160 acres. Half a day's journey further on, some settlers of the name of Brown had taken up a quarter section, and about eight miles from the rapids of Rock river, near the site of Watertown, were three brothers named Setchell, preparing homes for their families. A dam and sawmill were in course of erection at Watertown, by Mr. Goodhue, and at Lake Mills the Atwoods had made a comfortable abode

KING STREET,

(Between Webster and Pinckney Streets)

LOOKING WEST.

just twenty-eight miles from the capital. Settlement had made no nearer approach to Madison on that line of road, but the trail was well defined, and there was no difficulty in traveling where so many had already passed. The clear air of the capital, and the bustle of preparation, must have made the appetites of the workmen keen, as the records of the time continually mention expeditions to Galena and elsewhere, to replenish an often exhausted commissariat. Such creature comforts as pork, flour, and some few luxuries, were dealt out with no sparing hand, as all testimonies go to show.

The corner-stone was laid at the southeast corner of the capitol, on the 4th of July, 1837, and there was no lack of eloquence to celebrate the event; but the press was not represented on the occasion, hence the speeches are not recorded. There was another celebration in November, when the foundation was completed and the stone work ceased for the season. The money to pay the hands had to be brought from Green Bay; and Mr. Peck, who acted as courier in that emergency, swam several of the rivers, so that his wallet of paper money was somewhat dilapidated when he reached home. By November, 1838, the assembly and senate chambers were finished, but the plastering was not dry, so that the sessions of the legislature were held for a time in a new building, the American Hotel, erected at the corner of Pinckney street and Washington avenue, where the Park Savings Bank now stands, by Mr. A. A. Bird, the

contractor for the capitol, and his partner, Mr. Morrison.

Most of the workmen erected their own rude dwellings in the vicinity of King street, near the Third lake, immediately after their arrival; but none of the buildings remain at this time. There was a very hearty and unanimous celebration on the 4th of July, 1837, and Mrs. Peck claims that there were from two to three hundred persons present, including the Indian chief, Little Dandy and his party; but Gen. Mills and Mr. Catlin believe there must have been a misapprehension as to the extent of the gathering. The glorification lasted several days, and Madison has never entered with more general gusto upon the national celebration than was realized on that occasion by the little handful of white men and their Indian allies. Probably some of the confusion that was subsequently found in the accounts of the commissioners was due to the spirit that pervaded the first and many subsequent convivialities.

Under the act which provided for the building of the capitol, and appointed commissioners for the purpose, there was an appropriation of $20,000, to which congress added a like sum, making $40,000 in all.

The first meeting of the legislature in the city of Madison was held in the American Hotel on the 26th of February, 1838, and Governor Dodge delivered his first message to the legislature in Madison in that building. A committee reported that the hall and council chamber would be ready for the representatives and for the senate on the first day of March,

and after some little further delay the rooms were actually occupied, but it was an act of hardihood to attempt the transaction of business under such difficulties. Col. Childs, one of the members who was entrusted with the task of carpeting the rooms and rendering them habitable, has left a record of the sad condition of affairs, in which Contractor Morrison's hogs were better sheltered than the law makers for Wisconsin. If under such circumstances there were some efforts at log rolling, it may have been merely to maintain animal heat, by such exercise. The legislature adjourned for twenty days, to permit of the hall and chamber being rendered, in some degree, warm and comfortable. There was a difficulty in procuring hotel accommodation also, although there were now three houses where guests could be received. The Madison Hotel had two rooms that would lodge four persons each; the Madison House also two rooms that would lodge six altogether, and the American Hotel had eight rooms, in which twenty-six members could find accommodation. The prices charged were high enough to satisfy the most fastidious, but in every other respect, there was abundant room for complaint. Happily the pioneers were inclined to make the best of things as they were, although Judge J. G. Knapp asserts that six men were placed in a room, only sixteen feet square, in the Madison Hotel, and that the floors all over that populous establishment were nightly covered with shake downs, for transient visitors.

## CHAPTER III.

### PIONEERS AND CELEBRITIES.

The pioneers of our city were not the first settlers in the territory, now known as Wisconsin, and therefore we shall look outside our own borders to construct a sketch of the early days, which will connect the house of Eben Peck and his wife Rosaline, with the remote past, as well as with the present. The chief whose name is spelt by different writers in so many differing ways, De Kaury, Day-Kau-Ray, Decorrah, Decori, and otherwise, in every manner that will give even an approximation to the original sound, is said to have been the son of a French voyageur, or trapper, who had made his home among the Indians, giving rise to a succession of able men, who were influential in the affairs of the tribes. One of that family, a Winnebago, surrendered Black Hawk to Gen. Street, the Indian Agent, at Prairie du Chien, after the close of the Black Hawk war in 1832. The Frenchman Pellkie—whose name is undoubtedly a corruption from the original, who assisted to build the first log house for Eben Peck—was officered by another resident among the Indians, named Wood, afterwards a mill owner, who had married into the family of a De Kaury. Some exquisite stories could

be written of the Four Lake country, connecting Indians with white men, in the days before the city of Madison was even imagined. One of the De Kaurys exercised the powers of a chief in this immediate locality. Gray-headed Day-Kau-Ray or De Kaury, with a considerable force, met Gen. Atkinson at Portage, while Gen. Dodge was in the field during the troubles preliminary to the war, which was ended at the Bad Ax. They were various in their characteristics, as well as numerous and widely diffused, these Franco-Indian warriors and sachems. One-eyed De Kaury of La Crosse bore a good reputation, but another of the family was suggestively described as Rascal De Kaury. Mrs. Kinzie says that the mother of the race, a Winnebago, was alive in 1831, and supposed to be more than a century old. There were four or five brothers, of whom the Winnebago chief was one, and Washington—or Wau-kon—De Kaury another. One sister married a French trader named Lecuyer, another was twice married to Canadian French traders, named De Riviere and Grignon, and three married Indians. But enough about the De Kaurys. They were pioneers in this territory, busily engaged in the war of 1812 on the side of the British, and the advent of white settlers was the prelude to their removal by death or transfer. Descendants from the Lecuyer marriage were united in wedlock with white settlers at Green Bay, and elsewhere, and prospered according to the customs of civilized life.

Eben Peck and his wife came to the Blue Mounds,

where they rented the tavern stand owned by Col. Brigham, and boarded the old colonel and the hands employed by him. While so engaged, Mrs. Peck entertained Judge and Mrs. Doty on one occasion, and the conversation turning upon Madison, where the location of the capital was yet recent, the judge and his good lady made a promise, which was afterwards forgotten, apparently, that if Mrs. Peck was the first to commence housekeeping on the village site, she should have the best lot in the township, and also a present. Mrs. Peck was the first housekeeper, but it is probable that she did not care to recall the promise, which in the hurry of affairs, at that time, might easily have been forgotten by Judge Doty. Boarding houses must have been expensive and troublesome institutions to run, in the early days, as we find that flour fetched $17 a barrel in Milwaukee in 1838, irrespective of the cost of freight, in the days when travelers made their own routes, and carried axes along to cut down the timber that blocked their course. Pork cost as high as $33 per barrel, and potatoes $3 per bushel; add thereto the cost of transfer, and the profits incidental to boarders must have been whittled down considerably. Some courage was wanted then to open an establishment, such as the Peck family meant to run, when Indian villages were the only habitations near, and deserted wigwams along the borders of the lakes and streams told of the red men who had flourished and faded in this locality. Until now the cabin of Michel St. Cyr had served all the purposes of a

FIRST HOUSE IN MADISON.

*1837.*

hostelry, and the old man had not grown rich by entertaining his few and scattering guests.

There was certain to be a much greater demand for hotel accommodation, because the capitol had to be soon erected, and visitors were sure to become more numerous as the works advanced, but the workmen, as the event proved, would build their own lodgings before long, and make arrangements among themselves about cooking provisions. Travelers who came to see the country, to visit the mines, or to see the spots made famous by engagements during the Black Hawk war of five years before, seldom failed to visit Madison, which had charms of its own sufficient to justify a detour. Before long there were numerous hotels doing a prosperous business on the ground which had at first been exclusively possessed by Eben Peck's log house; and hundreds occupied their leisure in exploring the sparkling lakes, skirted with every kind of scenic beauty. Groves and meadows, suggestive of love in a cottage, capes, bluffs, ravines and prairies, the peninsula itself with its elevation seventy feet above the lakes, on which the capitol stands, now in the center of a lovely park, the undulating lines descending thence to rise again in numerous ridges, and most beautiful of all, in the grounds now occupied by the university, offered variety enough to gratify the most persistent searcher after loveliness. Mrs. Peck became the owner of a canoe which had been the property of an Indian chief, and Cleopatra never enjoyed her famous voyages, celebrated by the poets,

more than did the few who were privileged to glide over the lakes of crystal in that vessel. Only to see that boat freighted with pleasure seekers was a delight equal to all that is realized by the average looker on in contemplating a regatta. The joy of the rowers, and the charms of the scene could not be surpassed. A picture painted by C. A. Johnson, a fine and truthful representation of the first residence in Madison, with the canoe in the distance, is one of the most valued properties of the Historical Society, and an engraving of that scene accompanies this sketch. The primitive looking dwelling was at one time quite a luxurious abode, on Butler street, near the Lake House, lately destroyed by fire, not far from the Third Lake.

The picture is a perfect reproduction of the reality, in almost every detail.

Professor Chapman has recorded one fact which should long since have been tested by experience, in the natural desire of the early settlers to vary the supplies on their table. He states on the authority of Mr. Rasdall that the Indians used a root which grew in the marshes, as a substitute for potatoes, called by the red men no-ah-how-in. It was bulbous, but did not resemble arrow root. Mr. Rasdall said that having been cast ashore, without provisions, from Mendota Lake, in 1835, while arranging a trading establishment near the First Lake, he had subsisted on the root in question for ten days. The early settlers were not very speculative, as it appears that water for daily consumption was brought from the lakes until 1839,

when the first well upon the plat was excavated on the American House lot, the labor being performed by two soldiers, James Nevil and an Italian named Whildean. Mr. Darwin Clark, our fellow citizen, gives a vivid idea of the state of society in the summer of 1837, and while glancing thereat, we can understand that a fully employed population, engaged upon a task which must be finished in a hurry, and surrounded by hot blooded Indians, had little opportunity for making permanent improvements, which others would probably enjoy. That summer a party of Winnebagoes camped on the shore of the Third Lake, on the flat just below the old Lake House. During the continuance of the encampment, a quarrel occurred between two young Indians, one of whom stabbed the other, and from different sources we learn that the murderer sat on the body of his victim with perfect unconcern, smoking his pipe, as though modestly disclaiming special merit in a very creditable transaction. The white workmen, who were unaccustomed to look upon murder with satisfaction, were much incensed, and by way of warning that the knives of the red men must not be too freely brought in as umpires, they carried their rifles and shot guns to and from their work. The Winnebagoes took the hint in a proper spirit, and soon after left for parts unknown. The Indian stabbed as above described, was the brother-in-law of Pellkie's partner, another French Canadian, and, as stated elsewhere, Pellkie was himself shot on a subsequent occasion. There were consequently other

matters deserving attention besides digging wells, and seeking roots as substitutes for the potato. The vigorous action of the volunteers, who provided their own rifles and ammunition, may have prevented worse trouble. Public opinion, speaking through the rifle barrel, was a power which the red skins did not wish to provoke.

About two weeks after the arrival of Mrs. Peck in Madison, a party of fifteen men came on from Milwaukee *via* Janesville, and the work of the hostess began in earnest. Commissioner Bird was one of the arrivals, and he was accompanied by hired hands whose work had consisted in blazing and preparing a road by which other workmen and supplies would follow. It was important that proper tracks should be defined where so much traffic must shortly occur and the acting commissioner was provident. The American Hotel, already mentioned, was built in 1838, and circumstances gave that establishment an advantage over all competitors, for a time. It continued to be a place of considerable note, until it was destroyed by fire in 1868. The Madison Hotel also dated from 1838, but the structure was at first quite small. The territorial supreme court was organized in this building, in June, 1838, and held its first session here when the legislature assembled in the American Hotel. Gov. Dodge and many of the leading members of both houses made the Madison Hotel their headquarters. The structure belonged to Commissioner Bird, and was at first kept by his brother. The long continued efforts

Simeon Mills

of the other side to remove the seat of government from Madison found in this building an unceasing watchfulness which could not be evaded. There were numerous hosts, after the hotel passed out of the hands of the Bird family, and the name was changed several times, but it was known by the old name at the last, in March, 1863. It was situated on King street on the present site of Dean's block. The establishment kept by Mr. and Mrs. Peck, has already been mentioned.

The new comers, whose names and influence have been beneficially associated with Madison since that date, would defy enumeration, but there are some who cannot be omitted, from a record, however brief, which aims at any measure of completeness. The scene enacted in plastering the kitchen of the Peck boarding house, in which Judge Doty, Col. Brigham, and all the available masculinity of Madison, took part, is historical. The pioneers of Wisconsin were well represented and well occupied on that occasion. One of the earliest visitors from abroad, was an English geologist named Featherstonehaugh, afterwards a British consul until his death in 1866, and he provoked the ire of his hostess at a later date, by some ill-mannered jokes and very unnecessary criticisms, about Mrs. Peck and the accommodations obtained in her pioneer restaurant, which were published by him in London. There is unexceptional testimony, from a witness no less reliable than Gen. Mills, that Mrs. Rosaline Peck made excellent coffee, a point expressly denied by the earliest writer whose lucu-

brations concerning Madison, were published in Europe. The somewhat vulgar and untrustworthy book served its purpose in procuring him a government appointment under the British crown, so that Madison helped at least one man to fortune.

Before the days of Featherstonehaugh, there had been celebrities in Wisconsin, and not a few of them had stood where the capitol has since been erected. Capt. Jonathan Carver may have been a visitor to this precise locality, certainly he was for some time in the lake country. Gen. Dodge, who came occasionally to the capital, in discharging his official duties as governor, was in that way a Madisonian, and it is no small matter that we should be identified with the man whose conduct of the war did most toward effecting the defeat of Black Hawk in 1832. Col. Zachary Taylor was for some time in command of the troops in Prairie du Chien, and while there, a young lieutenant, Jefferson Davis, was sparking the daughter of the commandant, so that there were two celebrities in Wisconsin; the one destined to become president of the United States, after serving the country for many years in the field with "rough and ready" effectiveness, and to die of the turmoil of political life; the other, to lose by ill-directed ambition, the repute won as a soldier, and to find the grave of his success in the presidency of the confederation whose ruin it was his fortune to survive. Both officers rendered good service in the Black Hawk war until the end was reached in the battle of the Bad Axe on the second of August,

1832. But for the vigor with which the United States troops and volunteers fought then, in vindication of the faith to be placed in treaties, and in defense of property and life, there might have been no Madison on this peninsula. In that sense the men named were pioneers.

The Hon. John Catlin was essentially among the first comers. He was one of the party that accompanied the surveyor, Moses M. Strong, to survey and plat the town, and a lot purchased by himself, near the present post office, was utilized by him by the erection thereon of a log house, to be used as the post office store. That building was the first erected in Madison, as it was commenced some time before Eben Peck began his structure; but an accident destroyed the interior of the building, a fire having been by some means originated, and in consequence the primeval log house was not the first residence. Mr. Catlin was the pioneer *par excellence*. He was a Green Mountain boy, as he came from Orwell, Vermont. He was a partner with Mr. Strong in the law business at Mineral Point in 1836, and clerk of the supreme court. He became postmaster in this city in 1837. Removed from office by Gen. Harrison, he was reappointed by President Tyler. Subsequently he served as chief clerk of the house of representatives; was district attorney for Dane county, and judge at a later date; in 1846, he became secretary of the territory. Mr. Catlin was a good citizen and an able man of business. He died in 1874.

Hon. Simeon Mills ranks in the same category, with this difference, that he still remains in our community. Born in Norfolk, Litchfield county, Conn., in February, 1810, he is now in his sixty-seventh year, and he has spent his lifetime in Wisconsin since attaining the age of twenty-five. Mineral Point was his first abode in this territory, but immediately after the location of the capital, he moved to this city when there was only one house upon the ground, and on the 10th of June, 1837, he commenced a small building of hewed logs, in which to begin business as a storekeeper. For five years from 1837, Mr. Mills carried the mails to and from this city for the government, and about the same time the responsible duties of a justice of the peace were imposed upon him by Gov. Dodge. Numerous offices of honor and emolument have since that date been conferred on Mr. Mills. He was one of the commissioners for Dane county upon its organization in 1839; clerk of the United States district court; territorial treasurer; first senator for Dane county; one of the regents engaged in the organization of the state university, and subsequently paymaster general of the state during the war, from 1861. The record left by Gen. Mills, in every relation of his well spent life, reflects credit on one of the oldest pioneer families in Dane county, and his industry has contributed, in no small degree, to the prosperity and growth of the city.

Darwin Clark came to this city with acting commissioner Bird, in the spring of 1837, to commence

work as a cabinet maker on the capitol, and since that time he has been a resident in Madison, holding many offices of trust with honor to himself, and conducting for many years a very extensive business. He was born in Otsego county, N. Y., in May, 1812, in which state he also married his first wife. He set out for the west when twenty-five years of age, to make a home where there would be better opportunities than in the crowded east. The pioneers had among them few more estimable men. A young mechanic of mark in the early days, when there was only one family in Madison, and growing up with the place, figuring in its gayeties in the first New Year's festivities, which lasted two days, a guest at the first wedding when a young woman in Mrs. Peck's household became the wife of Jairus S. Potter, his name is interwoven with most of the early celebrations, as well as with many later responsibilities.

The community was very limited when that marriage occurred, on the 1st of April, 1838, and the better half was held in high esteem. Gen. Simeon Mills, not then holding military rank, but a prosperous storekeeper, and in office, rose betimes to gather an early bouquet of wild flowers to grace the occasion. The spring, in honor of the event of course, came early, or that feature would have been wanting from the festival. The wedding ceremony was performed by Mr. Eben Peck, in his capacity as justice of the peace, and when the dance followed, the better half of the Peck family played on the violin, assisted by Luther, her

husband's brother, according as the exigencies of the time demanded. Mrs. Peck played well, but she danced well also, and there were so few ladies to take the floor that one could hardly be spared to form the orchestra. The disparity of the sexes was happily expressed by Mrs. Peck: "You cannot call it succotash; there was too much corn for the beans." Both bride and bridegroom have since passed away, but the memory of the event is part of the domestic history of the city. Mrs. Prosper B. Bird was present, and she yet remains to honor and grace our community, a living memento of a time from which sad memories, mingled with few delights, yield a gentle perfume as of bruised but never dying flowers. Mr. Potter died in Madison, somewhere about the year 1841. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Allen. There were two Potters then in the village, Jairus, known as "Long Potter," for he was a man of great altitude, and Horace, whose more stunted proportions caused him to be known as "Short Potter." Miss Allen, after considering "the long and the short of it," did not follow the maxim "of two evils choose the least," consequently there was more husband in her home than in any other household near the capitol. Darwin Clark was good for many things, besides, being good company, in the early days, as thank goodness, he still remains. In the summer of 1837, when Wm. A. Wheeler came here to erect a steam saw mill west of the foot of Butler street, on the bank of lake Mendota, the young cabinet maker was able to give valuable

assistance toward the erection of the works; and although owing to the fact that the engine and machinery had to be brought from Detroit, operations were not commenced until nearly the end of the year; much of the timber used in the old capitol was sawed in Wheeler's mill. The McDonalds, the Smiths, and others whose names have escaped us, who mingled in the throng when Commissioner Bird and his wife led off in the "Virginia reel" or "Hunt the squirrel," will never have for us more than a phantom existence, as they "come like shadows, so depart;" but friend Clark is a reality.

The days in which Judge Doty, treasurer of the board of commissioners, came in from Green Bay with specie and currency to pay the men, guarded by Capt. John Symington and a squad of soldiers from Fort Howard, were not without their charm; more especially when we see the commissioner laying aside the pomp of office to stand sponsor at the informal christening of the first white child born in Madison; and editor Sholes, who was then in his company, must have been favorably impressed by our band of pioneers. Some four years later we find the Hon. C. C. Sholes identified with the publication of the *Enquirer* newspaper, the material of which journal was eventually removed to Milwaukee from this city. Mr. Sholes was more actively identified with Kenosha. The name most intimately associated with our early press is that of the Hon. George Hyer; but his work in that capacity will appear in reviewing our news-

paper history. He was one of our pioneers, and before Madison was platted, he had accustomed himself to thread his devious track through the woods, having on one occasion made his way from Milwaukee to Green Bay, and on another in 1837, from the same starting point to Rock river settlement, when he was specially sworn in by old Solomon Juneau to carry the mail.

In the earliest apportionment of offices for Dane county, the name of John Stoner occurs as treasurer, and that of R. L. Ream, father of the famous Vinnie Ream, a Madisonian, as register of deeds. Ream succeeded to the old log house erected by Eben Peck, after another residence had been built for that family. Geo. P. Delaplaine was surveyor, N. T. Parkinson, the first sheriff, William A. Wheeler, assessor, Adam Smith, collector, and the three commissioners were, Simeon Mills, Eben Peck and Jeremiah Lycan, with LaFayette Kellogg for clerk. The father of Vinnie Ream assumed the management of the pioneer "Tavern Stand," as Mrs. Peck phrases it, when Eben and his wife gave their attention to farming, unfortunately for themselves, cultivating a piece of land which had been deeded to them by mistake. The change was made in the spring of 1838, and the birth place of the sculptress was torn down in 1857, after twenty years of peculiarly eventful service. The old Madison House, the picture of which we preserve, was, under the presidency named, the resort of the aristocracy of Wisconsin, and it long continued to be the

stage house. According to Judge Knapp, the charges were not very moderate, as "two feet by six of floor could be had for the night," only upon payment of "two pence per square foot," and "the weary traveler might spread his own blanket, using his saddle or portmanteau for a pillow, rejoicing that he had so good a bed." The other hotels were no more sumptuous than Ream's, as in all of them, the lakes, the woods and the slow coming "prairie schooner," were drawn upon liberally to supply the table. Sleeping accommodation was at a premium everywhere, even after the American Hotel, the largest on the ground, was raised.

The first treasurer of Dane county, John Stoner, was born in Washington county, Maryland, in 1791, consequently, when he died in this city, in 1872, he was in his eighty-first year. He served in the war of 1812, and was one of the early arrivals in Madison village. His pioneer log cabin was in the second ward, abutting on the lot now occupied by the church of Norwegian Lutherans. The old landmarks are nearly all effaced, so far as they were raised by men in the springs and summers of 1837–8. The log house on the marsh is gone, the first frame house built in the city at the southwest corner of Wilson and Pinckney street, for J. S. Schermerhorn, has given place to a large two story brick dwelling. The old steam mill on the bank of the lake is so entirely gone that it is not easy to find even a trace of its foundations. A grey sandstone slab, erected to mark the spot where a

carpenter named S. Warren was buried in 1838, having been killed by lightning in that summer, cannot be found.

"Chief Justice of the Peace, Seymour," who is mentioned in a very pleasant and appreciative way in "Reminiscences of Madison," by Judge Knapp, loomed large in our early days, at once a pioneer and a celebrity. Mrs. Peck mentions him as possessed of a feather bed, once her property, and containing "over thirty pounds of fresh geese feathers," so that he had ideas of luxury. Judge Pratt says, that "his pipe was part of the man; with that in his mouth, he was clerk in the commissioners' store, kept books, dealt out silks and dry goods, tea and powder; was surveyor of the town plat, only he read the degrees and minutes at the wrong end of the needle; tried causes, civil and criminal, administered justice, mingled largely with equity and common sense. ..... All knew he was the *Gazette*, the very latest edition, and he had under his special care all the affairs of town, state and church. ..... A dreadful sickness came upon him and Seymour lost his pipe, the city losing its best guardian." Gov. Dodge appointed Seymour justice of the peace, upon the recommendation of Eben Peck, when Dane county was organized, and the commissioners set about bridging the Catfish, and erecting the jail, reducing "the bounty on wolves' scalps," to render their funds available for such works as have been suggested. Wm. N. Seymour published a directory of Madison, a copy of which is in the hands of

the Historical Society. He has lived to see several other works of a similar character, but none of them more interesting than his own. The stroke of paralysis under which he fell in November, 1859, has not deprived him of the satisfaction of witnessing the steady growth of the city, the infant steps of whose village days were in part guided by himself. His form is well known on the streets, and most of the old pioneers can tell of some good deed in his career, which retains for him a pleasant place in their memories. The Masonic fraternity stood by the "Chief Justice of the Peace" in his affliction, and by their aid he is comfortably circumstanced.

Gen. Geo. P. Delaplaine was county surveyor. We find him on the Fourth of July, 1839, reading the Jeffersonian Declaration, when William T. Sterling was orator of the day, and the music on the occasion was anything but first class. The dinner that day consisted of bacon and fish, with the addition of much whisky. Customarily the dinner comprised fish and bacon with less whisky. The celebration lasted three days. The pioneer Geo. P. Delaplaine came from Milwaukee to clerk in Jas. Morrison's store, and his ability no less than his high character soon made him master of the situation. His name stands honorably identified with most of the movements in early days for the advantage of Madison. Another of the early pioneers whose life has been honorable to the community, although there are no brilliant deeds to be pointed to in his career, is Mr. E. M. Williamson,

of Pinckney street, one of our earliest school teachers, and identified with the establishment of the Episcopal church, which will be found more particularly mentioned elsewhere. Many names that should have had notice have been omitted, but that is inevitable because of our limitations. The position and labors of Mr. and Mrs. Peck have already been briefly indicated. Eben Peck started overland to California when the gold fever spread over this western country, and it is supposed that he was slain by the Indians on the plains, but there is no record of his death, and it is claimed that he was heard from at a later date. His wife, a brave and able woman, has written many piquant papers, descriptive of pioneer life, in which her own experiences made her proficient. In her house the earliest visitors to Madison found a home, in her dining room the gayeties of several seasons found their earliest expression. Her husband as justice of the peace united in the bonds of wedlock the first couple lawfully married in this city, and after the irrevocable knot had been tied, as we have seen, the violin of the justice's lady gladdened the hearts of the assembled throng while they threaded the mazes of the dance. In the old log house was born Miss Wisconsiana Victoria Peck, the first child that saw the light in this city, concerning whose christening some particulars are given. Mrs. Peck and her husband were the pioneer settlers, and subsequently the lady became the first settler in Baraboo, where she still resides.

Mrs. Prosper Burgoyne Bird, formerly Miss Hewitt, another of our pioneers, came of good revolutionary stock, and was one of the most valued of our early residents. Her husband built a house for her in this city, while she remained in Milwaukee. There was only one house in Janesville when the lady came through to her destination. The party had seen enough of pioneer life to have discouraged most people, before they left Milwaukee. While they were neighbors of "Old Solomo," as the Indians always called Col. Juneau, they witnessed an election, in which the principal argument used in favor of the successful ticket was a dipper placed in a barrel of whisky, by the founder of the Cream City. The potency of such logic was manifested in the fact that a sober man could hardly be found in the settlement at the close of the day. The first boat launched on Lake Michigan, "The Juneau," kissed the water while Mrs. Bird was remaining in Milwaukee. The party set out on their road altogether, but at the last moment Mr. Bird, having business to transact on account of the capitol, for the building of which his brother was acting commissioner, returned to the village, leaving his courageous wife to prosecute the journey without his guidance, until sundown the following day. The ferryman at Janesville was not at home, so the little band went round by Beloit, where there were two log houses, one on each side of the river. The home provided for their accommodation was an uninclosed frame building, on the street now known as Webster

street, on lot eight, and the building was not completed until April, 1838. During part of the interval, Mrs. Bird resided in a log house on the site where Kentzler's livery stable now stands, and afterwards moved into the old log boarding house near Mr. Pyncheon's residence. There were, when Mrs. Bird arrived in the village, only four log houses; that built for Mr. Catlin, and partly consumed by fire; that occupied by Mrs. Peck, and known long after as the Madison House; the residence of Mr. Stoner, already mentioned; and one other of less note. Such an addition to the village was important.

The workmen engaged upon the capitol boarded with the newly arrived housekeeper, and there were rough times and hard work for all hands when she began her pioneer experience in this locality. In Mrs. Bird's mother's home the first death in the new settlement occurred from typhoid fever, and the second happened from her own house having been struck by lightning. The cemetery then in use forms now a part of the university grounds. The Bird family was one of the most numerous and energetic among the pioneers, but a volume would be required to record their several fortunes and adventures.

Col. Wm. B. Slaughter, whose eloquence is still the pride of his fellow townsmen, was born in 1797, in Culpepper county, Virginia, and came to reside in Green Bay in 1835, where he was appointed register of the land office. While serving as a member of the

legislative council of Michigan, which assembled at Green Bay in the winter of that year, he initiated the memorial for the organization of Wisconsin. About the same date, he entered the lot held by St. Cyr, near this city, and gave the half-breed $200 for his improvements. When the capital was located, he made his residence where the City of the Four Lakes was platted by M. L. Martin, Judge Doty and himself, and continued a resident until 1845, when Virginia attracted him to his old home. On the commencement of the war, the colonel was appointed commissary and quarter-master by the president; and now, nearly eighty years of age, he is one of the most active and intellectual of the residents in this city. There are but few men to be found who, from their personal experience, know more about Madison from the beginning. Soon after the capitol was commenced, and when Commissioner Bird's residence was small and cold, Sheriff Childs from Green Bay mentions a visit to Col. Wm. B. Slaughter's, on the west bank of the Fourth Lake, near Pheasant Branch. Long before this time, all the land business of the territory had passed through the colonel's hands at Green Bay. When the location of the capital was under debate, and long before it came to the vote, Col. Slaughter made arrangements with St. Cyr, under which the half-breed enabled the colonel to enter the tract in the summer or autumn of 1835, and he subsequently conveyed an interest to Judge Doty, with the hope that the capital would be there located. The arrange-

ment with Gov. Mason of Michigan, and the purchase of the peninsula for $1,500, wrecked Col. Slaughter's project, seeing that he was absent in the south while the session was being held at Belmont, upon which the location turned. Sheriff Childs, already mentioned, says that the votes which determined the matter were those cast by representatives who knew that their several localities would be erected into a distinct territory soon afterwards. Iowa had six councilmen and representatives, so that the influence of the outsiders really determined the issue, and the country west of the Mississippi was separately organized with little delay. Childs says that the town plat of Madison was divided into twenty shares, and that he was offered one share for $200, apparently with the hope that he would in that way be induced to vote for the location. His Roman virtue was equal to the emergency, and Green Bay was pleased with the course taken by him. Col. Slaughter's site had been very wisely chosen, upon the historical ground where Gen. Dodge held his "talk" with the Winnebagoes, when the Black Hawk war had begun, and after Stillman had sustained his defeat.

Josiah A. Noonan did not come to our territory until the year 1837, and in 1840, removed to Milwaukee, whence, still later, he migrated to Chicago to take charge of the *Industrial Age;* but as the founder of the first newspaper issued in this city, the *Wisconsin Enquirer*, he must have a place among our pioneers. The first press and printing materials

bought for this enterprise, were thrown overboard, off Mackinaw, in Lake Huron, in a storm, on the voyage from Buffalo to Green Bay, and in consequence the *Racine Argus*, with its material, was purchased and removed, to do duty in the capital. The paper was published on King street, in a room over the commissioners' store, and eventually some of the ablest journalists in the state were identified with its career. C. C. Sholes became a partner in the paper in 1839, as is elsewhere mentioned, and it lived until June, 1843, taking an active part in all public affairs until its death. Judge Knapp was for some time its editor. That gentleman has left on record a brief description of the Fourth of July celebration in 1839, and according to his winged words, there was no lack of spirit among the celebrants. There was an oration, and the declaration in proper order, but a liberal supply of "Pecatonica" and "Rock River," the latter a peculiarly strong water, with an orchestra consisting of two violins and a flute, filled every soul with martial music. A fat steer which had been brought to grace the tables of the citizens on the Fourth, was forgotten until three days later, when the keg was empty, and there was then but little superfluous fat upon the bones of the delayed sacrifice. It must not be supposed that all the citizens were affected by "old rye," but the carrier, who had brought the steer, had kept the secret of its whereabouts, until his senses were sobered by the emptying of the keg.

Abel Rasdall cannot be utterly omitted from a

record of our pioneers; his bravery during the troubles and his good faith at all times, entitle him to be mentioned, but he has been referred to at large in the first chapter, as will be remembered.

The schoolmaster was in request, but the number of pupils was not great. Mr. Edgar S. Searle taught school in the summer of 1839, and was followed by Mr. E. M. Williamson, mentioned among our pioneers, who had six pupils. Mr. Williamson taught at the corner of Pinckney and Dayton streets, one term, in a very primitive building. In the winter of 1842–3, Mr. Theodore Conkey also taught. Miss Pierce was at the same time engaged in the tuition of girls in an old building near the spot where Dean's block is now standing. Another step in the same direction, aiming at the improvement of adults, was an association for church purposes, entered into in July, 1839. The instrument of association indicated the establishment of a parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church as the object of the members. There were sixteen signatures to the document. The first Sunday school was also started about this time and conducted by Rev. Mr. Clark, Presbyterian clergyman. It was held in the capitol.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

THE EXAMPLE set by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1636, in preparing for the foundation of Harvard, less than sixteen years after their landing on this continent, has been fruitful in suggesting like works all over the Union. An endowment of public lands for a seminary in Wisconsin was provided by an act of congress which was approved on the the 12th of June, 1838. The land thus given amounted to 46,080 acres. Prior to the passage of the congressional act, and anticipating its provisions, the territorial legislature, in January, 1838, prepared to incorporate the University with all the powers and limitations common to such institutions.

The first quorum of the board of visitors stands on record as having met pursuant to adjournment, December 1, 1838, when Henry L. Dodge and John Catlin were chosen treasurer and secretary. Col. Slaughter was one of the most active members, and the requisite steps devolving upon the board were fulfilled. Regents were appointed, and an act was passed specifically incorporating the University, immediately after the inauguration of the state government, in 1848.

The first board consisted of John Bannister, Hiram

Barber, Alex. L. Collins, Julius T. Clark, Henry Bryan, Edw. V. Whiton, John H. Rountree, Eleazer Root, Simeon Mills, Rufus King, Thos. W. Sutherland and Cyrus Woodman. Four of the members were nominated for six years, and the others were appointed, four for four years and four for two only; their successors thereafter to hold office for six years. Part of the land of the University was purchased from Mr. Aaron Vanderpool of New York, on the 17th of October, 1848, subject to the approval of the legislature; and a building in the village of Madison, erected as a private venture for the purposes of an academy, having been tendered to the regents, rent free, by the citizens, it was determined to open the "department of science, literature, and the arts," by means of a preparatory school, on the first Monday in February, 1849, under the superintendence of Prof. John W. Sterling. The next step was the election of John H. Lathrop, LL. D., as chancellor of the University, at a salary not to exceed $2,000. The preparatory school was opened at the time named, with twenty pupils under Professor Sterling and Chancellor Lathrop. The cabinet of natural history was formed by Horace A. Tenney, who rendered his services as agent free of cost, and gave excellent aid to the institution at all times.

The formal inauguration of the chancellor took place on the 16th of January, 1850, and buildings were erected, the north dormitory in the following year and the south dormitory in 1854, from the in-

come of the University fund. In the same year the first class, consisting of Levi M. Booth and Chas. T. Wakeley, graduated.

The intention of congress in granting a liberal endowment of public lands to the University was to a great extent defeated by manipulations in the legislature, under which the lands were appraised at very inadequate prices, and so passed into the hands of speculators and others, who became the recipients of advantages which should permanently have assisted the intellectual culture of the community. Under such injurious action on the part of honorable members, some of the best lands in the state were pre-empted, or otherwise obtained, at less than one-fourth of their actual value, and the authorities of the University were powerless to defend the interests entrusted to their charge. The fund necessary for University purposes being thus rendered inadequate, congress was once more approached, and mainly in consequence of the exertions of Gen. Simeon Mills, a further grant of seventy-two sections was obtained. Mr. Tenney, already favorably known by his services, selected the lands thus given for the purposes of learning. The selections made by Mr. Tenney were among the choicest lands in the state, and although there was some delay in reporting them at Washington, in consequence of which private parties procured many of the best, other lands fully equal were eventually procured. Once more the legislature using its powers defeated the express design of the endowment, by ap-

praising the picked lands of the state at $3.00 per acre, reducing a property which was well worth $500,000 to a selling value of only $138,240. Even then the designs of the manipulators were not exhausted, as it was found that by pushing the lands into sale by auction, away from the centers of population, still lower prices could be made to rule, and yet the representations made by the institution were without avail. Even worse, during the summer session of 1854 a bill was hurried through one house, and came very near passing the other, under which all the lands sold, and to be sold, in the interests of the State University, some of which ranged as high as $30.00 per acre in value in open market, should be subject to patent at $1.25, and that all moneys already paid in excess of that amount should be refunded. A proposition more shameful was never submitted to a legislature; but Mr. Tenney, then reporting in the house, and a number of members acting with him, by whom he was called upon for a statement, only succeeded in defeating the nefarious project by two votes. Two purposes were served by the members who voted for the despoilment of the University: one, the enrichment of individual speculators, and the other and more justifiable design was the encouragement of immigration. Precisely similar tactics were pursued when the Agricultural College act was passed by congress in 1862; but no good purpose can be served by recapitulating discreditable details. The Regents of the University faithfully discharged their duties

in the premises, and at length, in 1872, procured the passage of an act granting from the state a sum of $10,000 per annum, as compensation to the University. That amount was not an equivalent for the loss, but it was something to have procured a recognition of the principle, that the lands granted by the federal government for purposes of education, should not have been sacrificed in pursuance of personal gain, or in carrying out schemes to promote immigration, in the lower interests of the territory and state.

The legislature acted for some considerable time as though the funds accruing from the sales of land granted for the University by congress were, in fact, taxes levied upon the state, and in consequence there were dark days and great causes for discontent among the promoters of learning in this city; but thanks to a more enlightened spirit which now prevails among the directors of the press of the state, and in the main, among the people at large, a better understanding has been reached. The fact that the University was doing its best under the disadvantages incidental to want of funds, during the dark and troubled times, is now admitted on all hands; and it is too apparent to require comment, that the cause of that poverty consisted in the breach of trust of which legislators were guilty. A bill aiming at the reorganization of the University was introduced, and came near passing both houses of the legislature in 1858. The chancellor of the institution, taking up the leading ideas of that measure, carried out most of the proposed al-

terations during the same year, with the concurrence of the board of regents. Chancellor Lathrop suggested the several changes apparently demanded by the public, and in pursuance of the change, resigned his position as chancellor, which was afterwards filled by Henry Barnard, LL. D., who united therewith the duties of professor of normal instruction. Chancellor Lathrop was elected professor of ethical and political science, but he subsequently resigned his office, and was reëlected to the position he had previously filled as president of the University of Missouri. Beyond doubt, that gentleman fell a sacrifice to circumstances not properly chargeable to himself; but his retirement, and the change of administration consequent thereupon, permitted the complete establishment of a good understanding between the people and their most valuable institution. The new scheme originated by the retiring chancellor was, in effect, a full recognition of the right of the people to control the University, and it devolved upon them the fullest share of responsibility.

Chancellor Barnard was unable to attend to the duties to which he had been called, thus the scheme which was to have united the University with the normal school system of the state failed completely. Eventually, in consequence of continued ill health, his resignation was accepted in January, 1861. The civil war, and the stress upon every department of the state, joined to the diminution of the number of students, rendered a reduction of expenditures inevitable. Prof.

John W. Sterling was made dean of the faculty, with the powers of chancellor, and schemes of retrenchment were adopted which enabled the University to continue its operations, without asking aid from the legislature, during the war. The University was largely represented in the army, and a military company was formed among the students, which has eventuated in the establishment of a military department, giving effect to an excellent suggestion made to the regents by the faculty. The drill undertaken to secure military efficiency has conferred mental as well as physical vigor. In the year 1864, all the class was in the field, and for the first time during ten years, there was no commencement.

A normal department was opened in 1863, under the care of Prof. C. H. Allen, and the result was in every way satisfactory. The apprehension commonly expressed, that the introduction of ladies would lower the standard of culture, has been proved groundless. Prof. Pickard succeeded to the control of that department in 1866, when the "female college" was established, which continued until 1873, since which time all departments of the University have very properly been thrown open to both sexes, without those invidious distinctions, which too long have evidenced the want of genuine culture among men.

Gifts made to the institution by generous citizens, have done much to increase its efficiency. Gov. Jas. T. Lewis made a donation to enable the board of regents to bestow an annual prize. The amount was

only $200, but the regents having invested the fund, were enabled in June, 1874, to offer a prize of $20, which sum is to be awarded every year, under the name of "the Lewis prize," to the writer of the best essay, received in the competition of that year. The Scandinavian library, known as "Mimers library," was a contribution from private individuals in 1868, through the agency of Prof. R. B. Anderson. The collection now aggregates about one thousand volumes of Scandinavian literature, and its value can hardly be stated. The world-famous Ole Bull was induced by Mr. Anderson to increase the library fund by giving a concert in the assembly chamber, and the sum thus obtained was very advantageously expended in Norway by the professor, who made a voyage thither in 1872 for the purpose, and procured at the same time valuable contributions from some of the ablest professors and most distinguished Norwegian scholars. The books obtained by the several means indicated render the Scandinavian library one of the best in the United States. The "Johnson student's aid fund" was in part due to the same agency. The sum given by the Hon. John A. Johnson, some time senator for this district, is $5,000, the interest of which is to be applied from the time of the donation, 1876, until the end of the present century, to assist indigent Scandinavian students, with sums not to exceed $50 per annum in any individual case, nor to aggregate more than $200 in the aid afforded to one person; with this further proviso, that in every case the student assisted

WISCONSIN STATE UNIVERSITY.

shall understand that the advance is a loan, and not a gift, and that whenever it may be in his power, he shall be expected to repay the sum to the fund, to increase its efficiency for future operations. On and after the end of this century the fund will be available for all students, irrespective of nationality, on precisely similar terms. Clearly, the object of the donor is to break down whatever barriers may at present exist, to the complete unification of the Norse element in our population with the great body of the people, made up of all the nations of the world. It would be difficult to imagine a form in which enlightened munificence can more elegantly express itself, than by such contributions to the improvement of the State University, and it is gratifying to observe that other persons are preparing to follow in the path thus nobly indicated. Most of the universities and scholastic institutions in Europe have been enriched by just such acts of individual munificence, generally by way of bequests, taking effect upon the death of the donor.

The state bestowed upon the University the building which had been occupied as the soldiers' orphans home, with the intention that it should be used as the location for a medical school or department; but for many reasons it was found inexpedient to carry out that design, and the regents having memorialized the legislature to that effect, have been permitted to sell the structure and grounds for $18,000. The Norwegians, who have made the purchase, will establish an academy and theological seminary in the building,

which will thus become a considerable addition to the educational facilities in Madison.

Returning now from a prolonged digression on the subject of gifts, to resume the narrative temporarily broken, we may say, that in June, 1865, the war having come to an end, it was thought advisable to reorganize the State University, but in consequence of an offer of the chancellorship having been declined, Prof. Sterling continued in his position until the following year. The increase of students and the improving aspect of affairs generally, so far as the University was concerned, led to a reconstruction, which was aided by a vacation of all the chairs in 1866, whereupon Pres. Paul A. Chadbourne was called to the management of the University from the agricultural college of Massachusetts. Prof. Sterling alone, of all the old faculty, was retained and reëlected.

The change made in 1866 entitled the University to the advantages accruing under the act of congress, which granted lands for agricultural colleges. The alterations necessary were embodied in an act, which was approved on the 12th of April, 1866, and thereupon the county of Dane issued bonds to the amount of $40,000 for the purchase of lands for an experimental farm contiguous to the university grounds. The requisite funds were provided and the farm procured, but two professors in turn declined the nomination as president, and the members of the old faculty were recalled for another year. After certain amendments had been made in the regulations, as to the several

departments being open to both sexes on precisely similar terms, Prof. Chadbourne accepted the presidency in 1867, and the work of reconstruction proceeded.

Since that time, the state has pursued a more liberal and enlightened policy towards the University. The educational power of the institution has been felt in the community, in the presence and force of men trained therein, or in kindred establishments, and now editing the leading journals of the state, or filling other responsible representative positions. The secretary of state, in his report for 1866, recognized the fact, that Wisconsin had not appropriated one dollar toward the support of the University, but had absorbed from the endowment given by the general government, sums aggregating more than $10,000, in the form of charges for taking care of the lands, besides reducing the value of the property in question, so that the fund arising from the interest had decreased $7,000 per annum in less than two years. The action of Dane county in affording substantial help was speedily followed by compensatory measures in the legislature. In the year 1867, an appropriation of $7,303.76 per annum was made for a term of ten years, and it was supposed that a like amount would be granted in perpetuity as an act of simple justice; but, as will be seen, a much more generous arrangement has been effected. The charge unwisely levied by the state upon the University, property for taking care of its lands, was at the same time abandoned.

Three years later, in 1870, a sum of $50,000 was appropriated to erect a female college, that being the first sum actually granted by Wisconsin in aid of her own University. In the year 1875, upon proper representations as to the necessity for additional buildings, the legislature appropriated $80,000 to enable the regents to proceed with the erection of Science Hall, which is now fully complete; and still later, in the winter of 1876, an act has been passed repealing all other measures of appropriation touching the revenues of the institution, and giving, by way of liberal acquittance for every error in the past, an annual tax of one-tenth of a mill on the dollar, on the valuation of the state, upon the condition, that from and after July, 1876, all tuition shall be free to every citizen of Wisconsin. The line of policy thus indicated, places the State University on a sound basis, and will not fail to establish the character of our people thoughout the union. The struggle for life has ended, and the munificence of the legislature, expressing the will of the community, will materially aid in developing the resources of the state. The line of conduct pursued in the beginning was an aberration, such as we are not likely to see repeated.

A desire to narrate in the proper order, and in a connected way, the several items of financial policy which, since 1866, have characterized the legislature, has led to a deviation from the straight course in describing the steps by which the regents and the faculty have discharged their duties; but allowances can be

made for that offense in the presence of such admirable provocation. There will be no further need to break the continuity of the narrative.

The University has now a department of engineering and military tactics, to which has been added a department of civil and mechanical engineering and military science. Mining, metallurgy and engineering as connected with mines, have also received attention; and the department of agriculture, a branch of training second to none in importance, is very slowly advancing in appreciation as well among the people as in the minds of the regents. Efforts have been made to render this branch of education effective, but up to the present time there have been no agricultural students. The Law Department, under the able Dean of the Faculty, Prof. J. H. Carpenter, aided by the best authorities in the state, deserves the very highest encomiums.

President Chadbourne's labors, under the reconstructed board, and the better tone of public opinion, gave an impetus to educational effort. The University became more worthy of support, a better exponent of scientific culture; and the leading minds in the community recognized its higher usefulness. The increase of students consequent upon those improvements, rendered additional buildings necessary, and the want has been in part supplied, but the requirements of the institution will continue to increase with the growing importance of the community. There cannot be finality in supplying the wants of an

intellectual people whose numbers and demands in the realm of knowledge are daily expanding. Already there are murmurs because of the want of an observatory and astronomical instruments. There can be no question that these requirements will be supplied.

President Chadbourne was obliged to retire in consequence of ill health in 1870, and his place was temporarily supplied by Vice President Sterling, during whose incumbency, at first as a matter of necessity, and afterwards as a matter of principle, young women were admitted to recite with any of the classes. The change has proved beneficial. President Twombly, D. D., was elected in 1871, and continued in office until 1874, when President Bascom, LL. D., D. D., was called to the work. Under the two officers last named in succession, but more especially under President Bascom, the institution has grown in usefulness and in public favor, and there is no reason to doubt that the good understanding, fully established, will be maintained.

The income of the University from all sources, now amounts to about $80,000 per annum, and with the growth of the state generally, the prosperity of the institution will steadily keep pace. Henceforth there will be no reason why every young man and young woman in Wisconsin, having an ambition to possess the advantages of complete training, should not cultivate the powers with which God has blessed them, in the development of their intellectual faculties.

## CHAPTER V.

### STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The state library dates from the earliest days of our existence as a territorial government, the first purchase of books having been made in 1837, since which time the collection has been largely increased. The State Historical Society was organized on the 30th of January, 1849, and its treasures now comprise by far the best collection of materials for northwestern history that can be found anywhere in this western country. There was at one time a superior collection in Chicago, but the great fire unfortunately destroyed that, among other priceless treasures. The organization of the society was suggested in the *Mineral Point Democrat* of October 22, 1845, by Chauncy C. Britt, but notwithstanding the support given to the project by the whole of the press, it was not found possible to carry it into effect until the date mentioned, more than three years later. Even then it was not a vigorous existence, upon which the association entered. Events called off the attention of some, sickness and misfortune impeded others, and the act of incorporation was not procured until March, 1853, when there were not fifty volumes in the library. In the month of January following, a com-

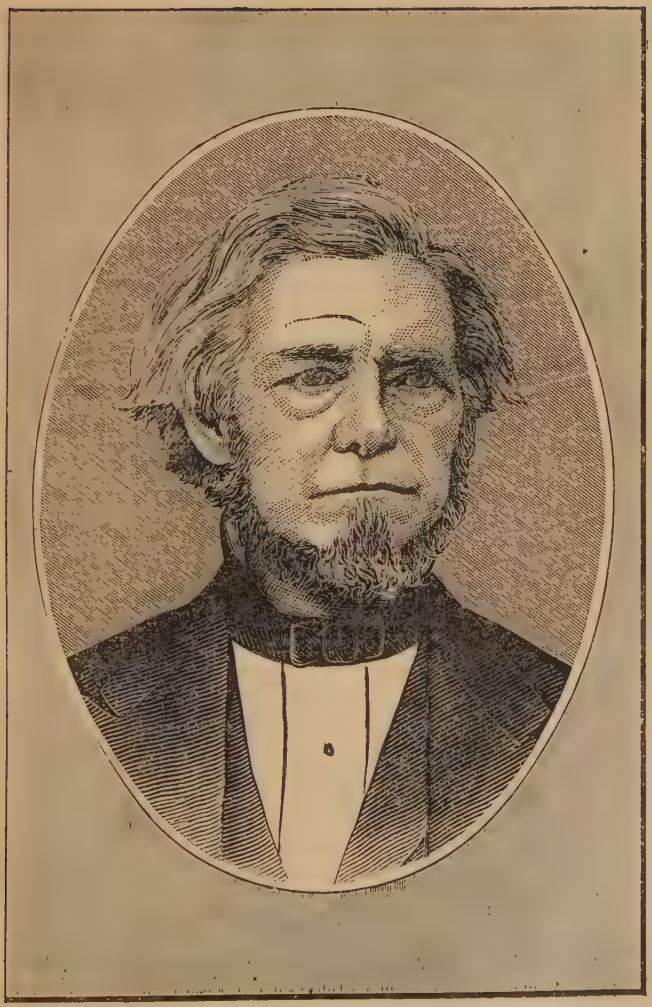
plete reorganization having been effected, a vote of $500 per annum was subsequently procured from the legislature to assist in attaining the objects aimed at by the promoters; and the first annual report for the year 1854 showed very considerable progress. There were already more than one thousand volumes in the library and promises of assistance and coöperation had been received from numerous societies on this continent and in Europe, as well as from American authors whose names are to-day more honorable to the nation than our material riches. Collections of autographs, portraits, and life sized pictures had already been commenced, including mementoes of our worthiest men, and those lines of effort have been persevered in with great success to the present time, until the gallery of the Historical Society has become singularly complete. With the report for 1854 were presented many valuable and interesting documents forming parts of the contemporary and more remote history of the northwest, in a striking way illustrating the importance of the society. One paper was a translation from the French, setting forth the policy which the soldiery of that nation should pursue toward the Chippewas and Foxes; another an English record of the days when the British forces had taken possession of Green Bay and other frontier posts, soon after the reduction of Canada by the English, and a very interesting appendix consisted of Jas. W. Biddle's recollections of Green Bay in 1816–17, about the time that this country really passed under Amer-

ican rule. The discriminating reader is of course aware that although the British should have surrendered this country in 1783, there were excuses made for the retention of Detroit and other posts until Jay's treaty was made, and that even after that date it was not until the end of the war of 1812 that the English authorities abandoned their manipulations with the Indians in this territory. The conduct of the Chippewas in hoisting the English flag at Sault Ste Marie in 1820, and defying Gov. Cass, was an event of still later occurrence, and the courage with which the old General tore down the insolent bunting, in the face of the Indians, won for him honest admiration. James Duane Doty, who was then traveling in the suite of Gov. Cass, assisted in hoisting the Union colors, and thereby increased his favor with the governor of Michigan. The drain on the material resources of England, caused by long continued wars against Napoleon, ended by the banishment of that ruler to St. Helena in 1815–16, made it inexpedient for the nation to continue its system of annuities to Tomah and the Menomonees, as well as to other Indian allies. The change was announced in 1817, and Mr. Biddle's recollections embrace that period and event, as well as much other matter that deserves recapitulation. The customs of Green Bay as to limited marriages, and transfers of marital engagements, among the *voyageurs*, fur traders and their semi Indian squaws, read like the records of South Sea Island life, with a few business like variations. There

had not been a priest in Green Bay for some time, and Judge Reaume, whose commission was said to have been given by Gen. Harrison, or earlier by the British, was for many years the only justice. Nobody could say when his authority first claimed recognition, but on the other hand nobody presumed to question its potency. "The Judge's old jack knife," sent by the constable, was a sufficient summons for any real or assumed offender, and the judgment of the bench could be influenced by a present, so that in one respect he resembled Lord Chancellor Bacon; but like the more celebrated man last mentioned, he was not without many excellent points, and his usefulness was beyond question. Gov. Cass recognized the substantial worth of Judge Reaume and gave him an appointment as associate justice, toward the end of his career, after the organization of the territory of Michigan.

The state will not readily comprehend how much is due to the labors of the Historical Society, and to its corresponding secretary, Lyman C. Draper, in the procurement and preservation of the treasures amassed by the society; but the Union and the reading world will some day recognize their worth, and this city cannot fail to reap honor in having been the birthplace of the institution.

Col. Whittlesey's "Tour Through Wisconsin in 1832," written in 1838, gives a vivid and life-like description of the Black Hawk War, but our space will not allow of such extracts as might be desired,



Hon. Lyman C. Draper.

and it is to be hoped that some person favored by the society, will embody in a few volumes the choicer matter in its priceless collection. For the present it is impossible even to enumerate the contributions that lie before us, and it is necessary to confine ourselves to a bare mention of only a few of the chief items of interest. Major H. A. Tenney, whose services to the community in many ways have been beyond praise, has given an admirable *precis* of "Early Times in Wisconsin," written in this city in 1849, after he had succeeded in buttonholing Col. Brigham, and had collated the information thus obtained, with knowledge from innumerable other sources. The first settler in Dane county was not inclined to write his recollections, but in his manly and genial way he was induced to talk of his early experiences, and *currente calamo*, Major Tenney converted his veracious words into history, which must always be the foundation of Wisconsin's records.

The second annual report showed that the Historical Society had increased its store by 1,065 volumes during the year 1855, and that in every other respect it was growing in usefulness, with experience. The picture gallery then consisted of twenty-five paintings, besides which the likenesses of numbers of local and national celebrities had been promised as additions to the collection. No less than forty-seven portraits, chiefly of pioneers and friends of Wisconsin, had then been engaged, nearly all of which were afterwards supplied. We are almost entirely at a loss in general

history, when we attempt to recall the features of thousands of men and women with whose deeds the world may be said to be familiar, yet "the counterfeit presentment" is often the best commentary upon the actual career of a person. Could we only be sure as to which of the several pictures, busts and casts, said to have been made at various times and places, of the player and poet, William Shakspere, was really taken from his features, in life or in death, it would be much easier to pronounce upon the question whether the wool-comber's son, who married Anne Hathaway, was truly the writer of the plays and sonnets that bear his name, or only the stalking horse of a still greater personage, the founder of our modern system of investigation. The pictures then in the gallery of the society were particularized, and where possible and necessary, as in the case of Black Hawk, the prophet, and in other such, certified to by the then librarian, Prof. S. H. Carpenter, in an excellent report on his particular branch of the society's possessions. The library has gone on increasing in every feature with accelerating rapidity every year, so that in 1857 the volumes aggregated 3,122, exclusive of pamphlets and unbound newspapers; in the year following, 4,146; in 1862 there were 14,400 volumes; in 1866, when the change was made from the basement of the Baptist Church to the suite of rooms in the capitol now occupied, there were 21,000 volumes and documents; in 1868, the Tank Library donation added 4,812 volumes, and the number of books, bound and unbound, had

increased to 31,505, which in 1872, when the last publication appeared, showed a total of 50,530. The supplementary catalogue, in August, 1875, showed a further expansion to 65,000, and the gratifying increment goes on with continuous energy.

There are now in the galleries more than one hundred oil paintings of noteworthy men, a feature of surpassing value. The cabinet of pre-historic relics contains nearly ten thousand specimens of the tools, ornaments and weapons of the stone age, in many respects second to none in the world. The copper era is illustrated by even a still more valuable collection, which has latterly been transferred to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, an assemblage of celts, spearheads and knives, in unalloyed copper, such as all Europe cannot equal. The maps and other valuables which are preserved in this institution would alone repay all the outlay that the state has incurred in supporting the invaluable movement, with which it is an honor to have been associated, as even the humblest pains-taking assistant.

The Tank collection above mentioned deserves more detailed notice. One of the earliest pioneers in Wisconsin was Otto Tank, whose widow, the daughter of a clergyman in Zeist, in Holland, inherited from her father his exceedingly choice collection of works, amounting to more than 5,000, inclusive of pamphlets, and this great treasure was by Mrs. Tank freely given to the State Historical Society, the cost of removal from Holland to this country being covered by a legis-

lative appropriation. In the next year a full set of Patent Office Reports, which cost the donors no less than $12,500 gold, and which covers the whole range of invention since the year 1617, the year following the deaths of Shakspere and Cervantes, were presented to the Historical Society by the British government, through the intervention of the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, late minister to the court of St. James. The favor thus conferred does not end with the donation named, as the society will continue to receive the series of publications from the Patent Office in London, at the rate of about one hundred volumes per year, and thus the inventive genius of this state will continue to be stimulated by the opportunity at all times to inspect what has been accomplished and attempted, and what is still within the range of tentative effort among our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic. Like donations may be expected from every other European government, when the purposes of the institution are made known in the proper quarters.

To continue such an enumeration would prove tedious to the average reader, and in consequence, we refer our friends for more complete details to the reports and catalogues of the society, and the rooms in the state capitol, which already are too small to do justice to an always increasing literary, archaic and artistic treasure. Mr. Draper has proved himself, in an exceptional degree, "the right man in the right place," one of those whose deeds will live after them, and to him

more than to any other individual, the state and this city owe the wonderful growth which we have utterly failed to chronicle according to its merits. Those who have been associated with him best know his peculiar fitness for the task to which his life has been devoted, and none of them will grudge the patient and modest worker the credit to which he is honestly entitled. His name has been the *open sesame* to numerous collections, and to innumerable pockets, from which the resources of the society have been enriched, and his zeal has contributed to induce the legislature to assist the movement by appropriations which, without great economy, must still have been wholly inadequate, while his example has induced hundreds to become willing laborers in the good cause.

Before us, on the desk, lie the volumes of Halliwell's Shakspere, a costly and rare luxury, originally published at $800 per copy, beyond our reach in any other way. The Historical Society enables us to see all that is known about the man with whom the greatest treasure of poetry on this earth is associated. Here are *fac similes* of his writing, and of his father's mark. The deeds and acquittances, and unhappily, also the writs, which tell of the poverty that fell upon the poet's home. Here are figured, as though in very fact, the original documents as they were presented to his eyes, letters and memoranda in which Shakspere and his immediate surroundings moved, in their daily lives.

The state library has been already named, as its chronological right demanded, seeing that it came into being before the capitol was planned. Apart from that feature, it is of great merit as a law library, hardly second to any in the west, and the completeness of the collection long since suggested to the managers the transfer of all its miscellaneous works to the shelves of the Historical Society. The courtesy of the librarian, the perfect order prevailing in the department, and the extensive as well as excellent assortment of works, combine to render the state library, in every sense, an honor to its promoters and to this city. The location occupied by this department in the capitol, adjoining the supreme court and the chambers of the legislature, renders it easy of access to all who are concerned in its advantages.

The city library, in City Hall, and the library at the University, deserve more lengthened notice than our space will permit, seeing that the witchery of books would infallibly cause an overrunning of our limits, "contrary to the statute thereunto made and provided." Before ending this chapter, it becomes our imperative, as well as our pleasant duty, to acknowledge the manifold kindnesses of Librarian D. S. Durrie, whose own labors as a writer have made him apt to render aid to every one toiling with pen or pencil. His merits need no eulogy, but this word of recognition is due to ourselves.

## CHAPTER VII.

### CHURCHES AND PASTORS.

The supposed first attempt at church organization was named in our pioneer sketches. Many similar works followed. Any preacher was welcomed in Mr. Ream's, Madison House. Bishop Kemper was a visitor there, and Father Quaw, from Canada. Col. Slaughter and Mr. Ream were vestrymen. The last named gentleman was in request as a singer, when services were held by any denomination. Rev. W. Philo was the minister of the "Apostolic Church" for twelve months. "Dominie Philo" was sentimental in his references to the other sex, and that fact provoked laughter, but, on the whole, he was much respected. When Mr. Toots in "Dombey and Son," was crossed in love, he told Miss Dombey, "It's not of the slightest consequence." It was otherwise with Mr. Philo. There was no Susan Nipper to give him consolation. He took to it kindly, and became sentimental. Probably some eastern belle had declined to share his missionary privations, and he knew that "the course of true love never did run smooth." There was a donation party for the good man on Christmas Eve, 1840, and he was made rich in creature comforts; but he was suspected of shedding

tears, as he reflected on the happiness that Dulcinea had lost. Ready to take part in any ameliorating effort, we find him conducting the religious exercises of the celebration, July 4th, 1841, when Mr. Slingerland of the Dutch Reformed Church was the orator. He, however, ultimately found him a helpmate, and lived to be the father of a family.

Rev. Richard F. Cadle, his successor, had lived fourteen years in the territory. He came to Green Bay as a missionary to the Indians. One hundred and twenty-nine children, Indian and mixed, at one time were taught by him and his assistants, industrial habits and the elements of a good English Christian training; but the effort died out after sixteen years. Mr. Cadle was chaplain of the fort at Green Bay and taught school. Many of the early teachers were men and women of good standing. He removed to Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, in 1836, being chaplain and teacher there for five years, until he came as pastor of the Apostolic Church, to this village.

Rev. Albert Slingerland's Dutch Reformed Church was a heterogeneous combination. There was an understanding among the nine members, that name and creed should remain subject to the will of the majority. The congregation was organized in 1840. The preacher officiated twelve months from the preceding June. He was indefatigable, lecturing on temperance as well as preaching, from Sun Prairie to Prairie du Sac. Col. Brigham was the ruling elder. Eventu-

ally his followers came under the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Clarke, having joined the Presbyterian and Congregational convention. Rev. S. E. Miner, now a prosperous business man in Kansas, next preached under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society. Eben Peck's log house was their temporary church until a commodious barn had been erected. A better edifice was raised in 1846 on Webster street, block 108, lot 10, that seated 250. Rev. Chas. Lord came in 1846, and continued until 1854, when, his eyesight failing, he resigned. Rev. H. N. Eggleston, his successor, was very popular. When he left, there came near being a permanent split in the congregation.

There is a general impression that whisky drinking was very common among the pioneers. Mr. Slingerland, in 1840, said that intemperance was not so prevalent as in New York, but Sabbath breaking and profanity impressed him strongly. Some preachers have preserved the best chronicles of the time. Rev. Dr. Brunson gives a lively picture of the various uses of the capitol for "courts, plays, shows, and worship," as well as legislation. Faro banks and the "Tiger" were excluded, but there were signs of the credit mobilier. The murder of C. C. P. Arndt on the eleventh of February, 1842, gave a terrible completeness to the catalogue of deeds possible in the capitol. J. R. Vineyard, from Grant county, terminated a dispute of his own beginning by shooting his fellow member through the heart, in the council chamber. The council refused Vineyard's resignation and expelled

him from the legislature, but the courts acquitted him of manslaughter. The funeral services in the chamber were very impressive, and Arndt was interred at Green Bay. Vineyard went to California. Considering the excitment, it is a wonder that he was not lynched. C. C. P. Arndt's father was in the assembly when his son was shot, having been invited from Green Bay to a social gathering which had been enjoyed the night before. The Arndts, father and son, were beloved, and the murder was unprovoked.

The erection of a Catholic church was resolved on in 1845, and commenced in the following spring. The church on Morris street was built in 1850, and three years later the foundation stone of the Catholic cathedral on Main street was laid by Bishop Henni. The consecration of St. Raphaels, in 1866, was a grand ceremonial, as was also the dedication of "The Church of the Holy Redeemer" in 1869. The storm of 1874 injured the steeple of the cathedral, so that it was taken down, but the structure will be improved greatly in consequence.

The first sermon was preached in Madison by the Rev. Salmon Stebbins, M. E., as presiding elder of the Milwaukee district, in the Illinois conference. He came on the 28th of November, 1837, and upon the invitaton of Col. Bird, converted the bar room of his brother's house into a tabernacle. The elder, a vigorous preacher at Kenosha, says: "I preached to an interested and interesting congregation." There was no collection, but the men made up a purse of

§11. There were few inhabitants between Madison and Jefferson. He came through Kenosha — then Southport — and by way of Milwaukee, through the counties of Washington, Manitowoc and Sheboygan, to Green Bay and Fond du Lac — a formidable journey over such roads. Milwaukee was the first location made in this territory. Solomon Juneau was in his prime, a prosperous Indian trader, founding a city. Root River Mission was formed with Rev. Samuel Pillsbury in charge. He was our second preacher, and is now editing a paper. Col. Bird thought that Elder Stebbins' sermon was preached in September, but the money entry in the diary of the Elder fixes the date of the service. The foundation of the capitol was completed in November, and the men waited for Eben Peck to return from Green Bay. Mr. Woolcox of Jefferson says: "Peck had to swim the rivers and the money was wet, so we waited until it was dry to get our pay. About the end of November we started." Mrs. Marion Starkweather, Col. Bird's daughter, says that Mr. Pillsbury came in March, 1838, and held services afterwards once every month. Col. Bird provided a barn for him, where Kentzler's stables are now standing. There were few white settlers; Col. Bird, with four children, Chas. and Wm. Bird, and Dr. Almon Lull were present when he first preached, but the outside attendance was large. About four hundred Indians surrounded the building, but would not enter. Mr. Pillsbury was a frequent visitor. He assisted in opening the

capitol when the first session was held in the unfinished building. Mr. Hyer mentions the habits of the Indians in his notice of "Covalle the trapper." His Indian wife and her children would gather to observe the Sunday meetings, and the proceedings of settlers in their homes, but would rarely enter. Dr. Joseph Hobbins says, that an Indian and his squaw dined with him and his family, behaving with exemplary decorum during the repast; but after leaving the table they asked for every article that caught their fancy; considering that fact, their backwardness was a blessing.

The Methodists did not recruit rapidly. In September, 1838, Rev. John Hodges was appointed here and to Fort Winnebago, now Portage. The first three members in Madison were Ruth Starks, Benjamin Holt and his wife. Dr. Brunson was a member of the legislature in 1840, and he rallied the Methodists, assisting the chaplain, Jas. Mitchell, in occasional services. He thinks that Mr. Fullerton was here in 1841. S. P. Keyes was here next year; then Jesse L. Bennet in 1843, and Mr. Stebbins afterwards. The several preachers cannot be mentioned, but Jonathan Snow is a piece of our history. He became eccentric and nearly killed the church by harsh discipline in 1851. He was summarily removed and is remembered as "The Snow Storm." Gen. Samuel Fallows was the junior preacher in 1858–9, and in 1864 the chaplain of the 3d Wisconsin supplied the pulpit. Rev. E. D. Huntly is now the pastor and is working

strenously to complete the edifice almost ready for dedication. The little church was once a great improvement on former experiences, but the new building will be an ornament to the city. When the "Little Brick" school house, on Washington avenue, became too small, Damon Y. Kilgore removed his pupils to the basement of the Methodist church. Even there 250 pupils in one room must have required good stowage and little fuel in winter.

"Chief Justice" Seymour was reflected upon in a public meeting during the pastorate of Mr. Philo, because, he being a justice of the peace, did not "kill the tiger" that was being "fought" by many citizens. The respected "dominie," never suspecting a joke, drew up a resolution exculpating the squire as a "good and sufficient justice," and the audience, which had assembled in indignation, broke up in laughter. There were hard cases in the settlement, compared with whom Covalle was a marvel of civilization. Pinneo, a "shingle weaver," attended church one day when Mr. Philo was preaching, and he astounded the congregation by saying very seriously, "That's so, Mr. Philo, that's so, Butterfield's got to be saved; just hold on 'till I bring him in." Pinneo did not return. His absence was, in an olfactory sense, a pleasure. He claimed to be a down east Yankee, but that was the only sign of good lineage. He was indispensable as a maker of shingles, and when sober, had a laugh and a joke for everybody, but people kept to windward of the unwashed man. He was summoned to

serve on a jury in Judge Irvin's court, and the judge was scrupulously clean, while Pinneo was dirty as was possible to a life divorced from soap and water. The court was adjourned to enable Pinneo to wash and procure clean clothes, after listening to a diatribe against filth; but he survived the affliction, and was burned to death at last in a drunken orgie.

Covalle conformed to the usages of civilization, attended church, was orderly, took physic with praiseworthy resolution, gave it to his half-breed children, made them wear the garments of white folks, and attend the ceremony of his marriage to their mother, before a justice. He had been married according to the usages of the country. He traced his line to the trappers on Hudson's Bay, and when Col. Bird came here, Covalle was the only white man on the site. He led a blameless life, being cleanly, sober and obliging. Better conditions supervened. Rev. Stephen McHugh was called by the Episcopal church in 1845, having become known during attendance to deliver a Masonic oration on the anniversary of St. John. He organized Grace Church parish, and the ladies raised funds to purchase the land occupied by the church. A brick parsonage, commenced in 1850, was occupied on Christmas day when the Rev. W. H. Woodward was pastor. The next rector was the Rev. Hugh M. Thompson, followed by Mr. Powers. The sound of the church-going bell in the village was due to Squire Seymour. Meetings, social, political and religious, were repeatedly delayed because no two clocks or

watches agreed, and the variations extended over two hours. Somebody suggested a bell; Seymour drew up a subscription paper, ordered the instrument, and on its arrival procured the first peal from its clapper, utilizing the astonishment of the audience by carrying round the hat. The bell was the common property of all the churches and every organization.

Rev. J. B. Brittan came in 1855, and funds were raised to build a church, which was not finished when Mr. Brittan became chaplain of a regiment. There had been an outlay of $22,000, but the tower was incomplete and the basement was not ready for occupancy. Rev. Jas. L. Maxwell came next, remaining until 1867. Before he resigned, a very handsome organ had been built at a cost of $2,500. Under the rectorship of the Rev. H. W. Spaulding, the building was completed in 1872. When the Rev. Dr. Spaulding removed to Pittsburg, the Rev. John Wilkinson, of Chicago, the present incumbent, succeeded him, winning the good opinion of all classes. A chime of nine bells was placed in the tower in April, 1874. The bishop's bell, in memory of Bishops Kemper and Armitage, the largest in the chime, was purchased by general contributions, as also was the seventh, the rest being donated *in memoriam* of the departed, whose names they bear.

The Congregational Church eventuated from Mr. Slingerland's labors, and we have followed the organization to Mr. Eggleston's ministry. The people were attracted by Mr. Eggleston, and Bacon's Commercial

College was used while a brick chapel was building on Washington avenue. Mr. Eggleston was succeeded by Rev. James Caldwell in 1858, and in the following January a church was specially organized to receive Mr. Eggleston as pastor, to be known as "The Union Congregational Church and Society of Madison." Eventually all reunited. Revs. L. Taylor and Lewis E. Matson bring us to the present incumbent, Rev.

Chas. H. Richards, whose talents and good qualities have made him a gain to the community. Arriving in March, 1867, he has assisted in the later developments of the church, among which must be noted the elegant edifice, capable of seating one thousand persons. The bell in the tower was given by Mrs. L. A. Richards, and was at that time the heaviest in the city; but the "Bishops' Bell," in Grace Church chime is five hundred pounds heavier.

The Presbyterian Church was at first identified with other organizations. Rev. H. B. Gardiner was retained by the congregation in 1851 at Lewis Hall, The building since used as a bakery by Mr. Miner, at the corner of Mifflin and Carroll streets, was next occupied, and in 1853, the church moved into the frame building, corner of Wisconsin avenue and Johnson street. The several pastors have been the Revs. Wm. L. Green, Edward G. Read and Richard V. Dodge, until we reach the pastorate of the Rev. L. Y. Hays, who has served since 1873, maintaining unabated popularity and usefulness, and taking a praiseworthy part in many movements outside the church.

The First Baptist Church was organized in December, 1847, by the Rev. H. W. Read, his successors being the Revs. John Williams, S. S. Whitman, M. D. Miller, James Cooper and Wm. R. Brooks, whose pastorate ended in 1858. There were many preachers for brief terms. In the summer of 1860, Rev. W. H. Brisbane became pastor, but resigned to become chaplain of the first Wisconsin cavalry regiment. Rev. J. E. Johnson assumed pastoral charge in 1863, and he was followed in succession by Revs. J. C. C. Clarke, Mr. Paige and Thomas Bright, who came to the city in 1873, and rendered acceptable service until his lamentable sudden death in the pulpit, in September, 1876.

The German Evangelical Association commenced operations in 1844, when the missionary, Rev. J. G.

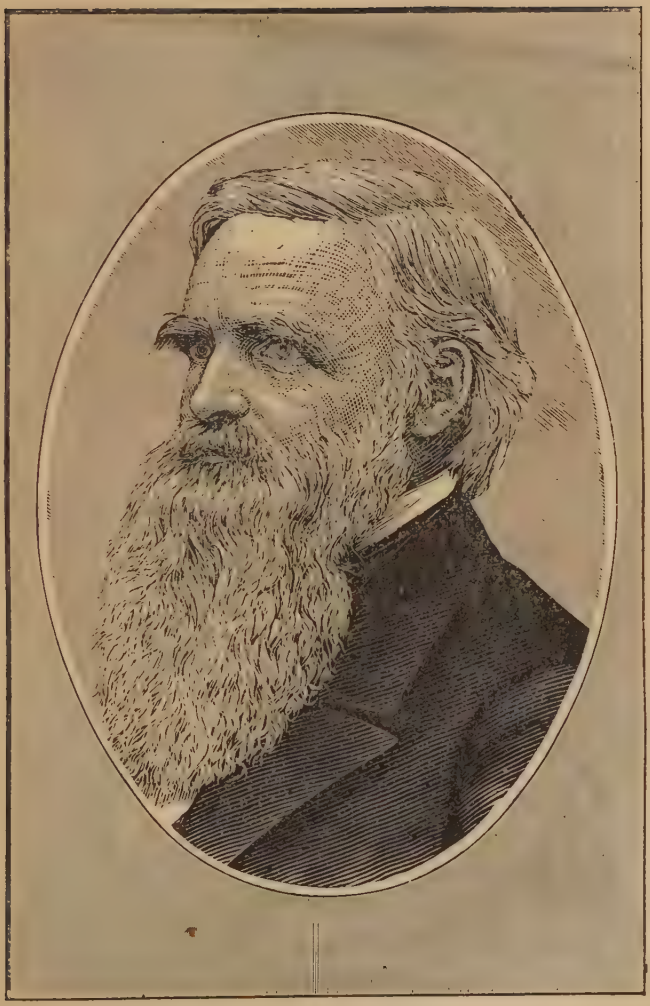
Miller, having found German families in Madison, held service in their houses. The whole of Wisconsin was his parish, and his salary was $41 in 1845, increasing to $47 the second year. His successors were the Revs. J. Eply and M. Howard, but Mr. Miller was still a frequent visitor. Revs. C. Schnake and W. Strasberger commenced a church building between Broome and Bassett streets, which was finished by Mr. Miller in 1856. The church on Pinckney street, corner of Mifflin, was built in 1865, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. W. F. Schneider, succeeded by the Revs. C. F. Finger and Chas. Schneider.

The German Lutheran Church has erected two buildings, the first on Main street, in 1858, near the railroad depot, on block forty-four; the second, ten years later, on Washington avenue and West Canal street. The organization dates from 1856. Rev. H. Vogel, was pastor until 1872, when he was succeeded by Rev. Christian Wilke.

The German Methodist Church, Rev. Mr. Walker, pastor, was built in 1864, on the corner of Mifflin and Webster streets.

The Norwegian Lutheran Church, on the corner of Hamilton and Butler streets, was erected in 1862. Rev. H. A. Preuss is pastor.

The Hebrew Congregation Schaare Schoymayn, of which the Rev. J M. Thuringer is Rabbi, hold services every Saturday at 10 A. M., in the Synagogue on Washington avenue, between Henry and Fairchild streets.



Hon. David Atwood.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### NEWSPAPER HISTORY.

A SCOTCHMAN who had seen the Stuart dynasty sung from a throne, said: "Let me make a nation's ballads, and who will, may make its laws." Newspapers have superseded ballads. Journalism, the popular voice in type, is the foe of usurpation. The growth of our press has been wonderful. While Captain Carver diplomatized among the Indians here, the newspaper advanced from an advertising sheet to a political power. Before King George rewarded Carver with a grant, the press had defeated the monarch. The stamp act might have been fought in vain, but for our journals. Henry would have roused a small circle, but there would have been no national soul. Journalism was the bond of union that saved the colonies. Charles Carroll, in the *Maryland Gazette*, indorsed Patrick Henry, and every liberal sheet responded. The *Gazette*, in Pennsylvania; the *Newport Mercury*, R. I., answered the call, and the *Mercury* was suppressed in vain. Charleston papers took up the strain; New York sons of liberty shouted for freedom. The *Boston Gazette* echoed the words of Henry, backed by Adams, and a pamphlet in London disseminated that utterance, in spite of the British government. Within one year the king was discom-

fited, the stamp act repealed. That was the beginning, and the end was near. "I am the State," said Louis XIV. With greater truth the press could have said, "I am the Revolution." The newspaper was the weapon, without which there had been no Bunker Hill, no world renowned Declaration.

The *Enquirer*, published by Noonan, was small, but it had power. His share in the transaction appears elsewhere. George Hyer, who set the first type, has been mentioned with honor. The partnerships of Sholes, Noonan, Hyer and Judge Knapp, are stories often told. Reed changed the sheet from Democratic to Whig, and in 1844, the changeling died. Politics, in the early settlement, were for and against the commissioners. When the capitol ceased to supply pabulum, a Democratic pioneer says, "we went where we belonged."

Party lines were observed when the *Wisconsin Express* appeared, in 1839. Wyman sold the paper to D. Atwood and Royal Buck, who afterwards consolidated with the *Statesman*. Its politics were Whig. Wyman was a hard hitter. When Ream and Clark were candidates for the office of register, the former winning by two votes, Wyman made affidavit and published, that the canvassers had suppressed returns. Ream confirms that statement, saying: "I found myself elected by two votes, which much surprised me .... until .... a friend explained .... after exacting secrecy .... that the extra vote was obtained by strategy, to make my election sure." Wyman is

fortified, but the canvasser says: "Save me from my friends."

Knapp and Delaney brought out the *Wisconsin Democrat* in 1842, which died eighteen months later, in the hands of J. P. Sheldon and Geo. Hyer. The same name was used for a paper in 1846, by Beriah Brown. That organ combined with the *Wisconsin Argus*. While two papers were running, both offices wanted the government printing. The *Argus*, some months older than the *Democrat*, rested on its antiquity. Beriah Brown relied on shell fish, and the wire puller won. A caucus being called to settle the question, a member unseared by corruption, said: "We have eat Brown's oysters and drinked his liquor. We can't go back on Brown." Beriah succeeded in taking the *Argus*, as well as the patronage.

*The Wisconsin Argus* was published by S. Mills & Co., with John Y. Smith, editor. H. A. Tenney joined, when the firm of Tenney, Smith & Holt was established. Two of the firm sold to S. D. Carpenter, and Mr. Tenney remained until 1852, when the consolidation followed. "Old Hunkers" and "Tadpoles," the divisions of the Democratic party, took their "feast of reason" in one sheet. Mr. Carpenter retired, and Beriah "played it alone" until July, 1854, when E. A. Calkins, since of the *Milwaukee News*, joined the staff. Calkins & Proudfit became proprietors. Two years later, J. K. Proudfit sold to Mr. Webb. The paper suffered from tightness of the [illegible]t, and Beriah Brown was called in, but after thre[illegible]

months vigorous treatment there were no signs of increasing vitality. Brown left Webb & Calkins, and the paper breathed its last. There was a resurrection, but Calkins & Cullaton could not make it go. Calkins sold out, other editors gave vigorous support to the war policy of Lincoln, but the paper would not live.

Wyman brought out the *Statesman* in 1850. William Welch was one of its editors. Wyman & Bugh assumed the management in 1851, and at last consolidated with the *Express*. The *Wisconsin State Palladium* resulted. Atwood, Wyman & Buck did not harmonize, and the paper was suspended. The *State Journal* made its appearance, with David Atwood as editor and proprietor, in September, 1852, the Republican party accepting the *Journal* as its organ. Several additions and alterations have worked no change in the politics of the paper. Mr. Rublee, Mr. Gary, Mr. Reed and Mr. Culver have supported the venture, making it one of the best journalistic properties in the state; with one of the most complete printing offices west of Chicago.

Earlier phases of newspaper activity are illustrated by a sketch from the *State Journal*. Mr. D. K. Tenney is identified with this city, and the phrases of Col. Bird are true to life:

"Twenty-six years ago, Dan. K. Tenney put up at the "United States Hotel," with two "bits" in his pocket. Col. A. A. Bird was landlord. Said Dan, "Two bits sizes my pile; but I'd like to stay here

Wisconsin State Journal Block, Washington Avenue.

over night and see what I can do to-morrow." The Colonel (good old soul as ever lived) looked at his new guest, and replied: "O Gad, yes; stay as long as you like, boy! Have some supper? O, Gad, yes; come in. Stay as long as you please." Dan had supper and a night's lodging, and in the morning struck a printing office, and secured a "sit." Getting a little money, Dan next turned up in the University. He got as much as they could spare in that institution and returned to the printing office (the *Journal*, a wee bit of a paper then), working along, until toil and no fortune seemed foolishness. One day, all hands were "jeffing" on the stone to see who should get a pail full of whisky, when Dan. spoke up: "Who the d—l's got any money in this crowd?" Nobody, of course; and the "devil" had to go down and "stand off" old "Jackknife" Robinson for a couple of quarts. After this amount had been disposed of, it struck Dan that printers were fools to be pulling hand press and sticking small pica, so he remarked: "Good bye, boys; you are all condemned fools if you stay here? I'm going to study law and make something." Dan started for Portage, where he met his brother H. W. "I've come up to study law with you, by thunder." H. W. replied sharply, "You have? You are a darned fool; you'd better stick to printing. You'll cut a hog in two studying law? But if you are bound to stick to law, you can see what you can do turning those eighty acres of mine into city lots, and selling them." This was Dan's first

job. He succeeded, stuck to the law and kept out of a printing office, except when briefs and other jobs were required. We don't know how Dan counts his thousands in Chicago, but he has just erected a handsome block, on the spot where Col. Bird, twenty-six years ago, took him in, with only two "bits," in his pocket.

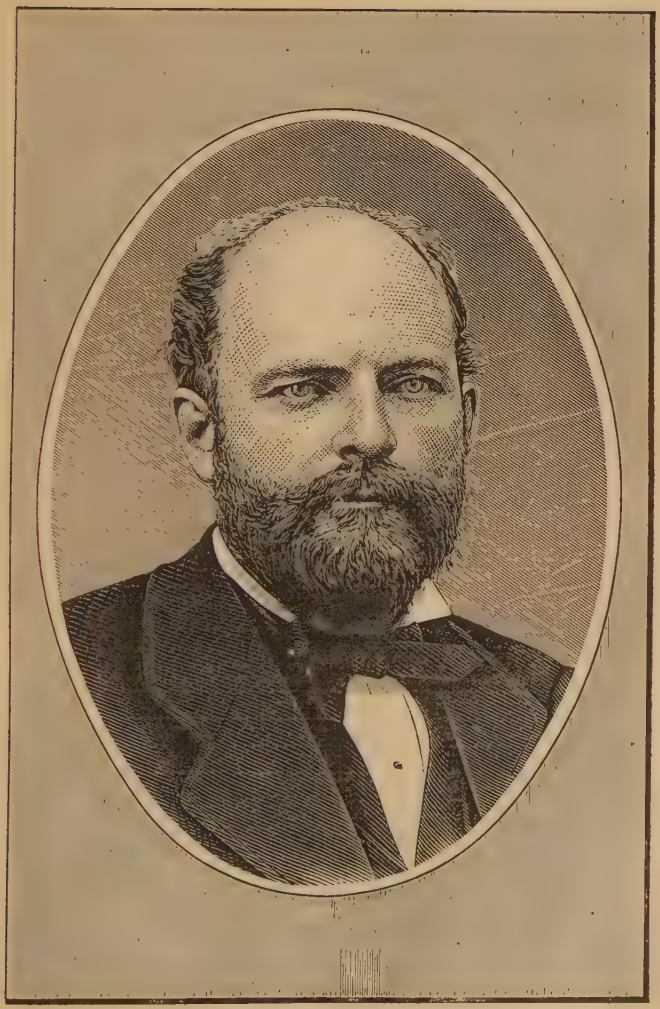
There were wild jokers in the printing offices, men for whom a hen-roost had no sacredness; fellows as full of deviltry as Falstaff on Gad's Hill, but more courage. One of the Tenney's possessed a choice assortment of poultry. One night, when the devil failed to scare up copy, that power of darkness found occupation for idle hands, purloining capons from the foreman to make a feast for the father of the chapel. There were two Tenneys in the business, but H. A., to whom the poultry belonged, warmly approved the banquet. He said the foragers should revisit the hen roost, and they did so. There may be no truth, but there is poetical justice in the *fowl* invention. D. K. Tenney says: "Have not all my happy days for twenty-six years been spent in Madison?" Was the happiest day that night? The boys cleared his brother's hen-roosts like the grasshoppers scooped Kansas?

*The Wisconsin Patriot* has more than one eventful history. Gathered to "the tomb of the Capulets," it is still a power. The first number appeared twenty-two years ago. The proprietors and editors were J. T. Marston and H. A. Tenney. Tenney sold to S. D. Carpenter, who subsequently bought out Marston.

The firm of S. D. and S. H. Carpenter ran for some time, but after many changes, S. H. Carpenter, our much respected "Professor of Logic and Literature," sold to Mr. Law, who was associated with S. D. Carpenter about a year. The *Patriot* saw many changes which would be tedious to narrate. The management at the present time is in the hands of H. A. Tenney and S. D. Carpenter, but their business arrangements are not matters of history. Two men so intimately identified with the press of this city, deserve a notice embracing more than their Madison engagements. Major Tenney, from whose sketches we have freely quoted, came in 1845, but went to Galena, and did not buy into the *Wisconsin Argus* until 1846. He was government printer in 1847 and the following year. When the constitutional convention assembled, he was reporter, and again in 1848. Directly and indirectly he was state printer until 1852, when ill health compelled his retirement from the *Argus*. The Major, one of the founders of the *Patriot*, sold out to his old partner. Mr. Tenney's services to the University are matters of history. His position as assistant state geologist, enabled him to aid the University collections largely. In 1857, he was a member of the legislature, and introduced the bill for the new capitol. In the following year he was comptroller of state, and one of the regents of the university. His services at Camp Randall need not be enumerated, nor his appointments in the U. S. A. He was special agent of the P. O. department until 1864. In

1869–70, he was associate editor of the *Chicago Republican*, moving to similar duties on the *Post*, and on the *St. Paul Pioneer* in 1872. He became clerk of the railroad commission in 1874, is the oldest Madison editor surviving in Wisconsin, and not yet tired of the drudgery of the press. When he began there were but nine exchanges, few of which have survived.

Mr. S. D. Carpenter settled in Madison in 1850, and was identified in succession with the *Argus*, and the *Argus and Democrat*, from which having retired he devoted his genius for mechanics, to invention. The pump, to which he is indebted for a pseudonym, was invented in 1853, and he sold rights to the extent of nearly $35,000. Once more in newspaper life, Mr. Carpenter became editor and proprietor of the *Patriot*. Its politics were eventually war democratic. The well known claim for damages against the state, dates from 1864. During that year Mr. Carpenter devised a power press, on the model now largely used, feeding from paper in the roll, and he claims to have originated that plan. The invention of an automatic grain binder employed nine years, and about $40,000. It is claimed that every device now operating for that purpose, took its rise in Mr. Carpenter's ingenuity. His inventions were sold to McCormick & Co., because a fortune was wanted to establish his rights, and furnish machines. His veneer cutting and other inventions cannot be glanced at; suffice it to say that few men have excelled him in variety and originality of design for labor-saving machinery.



DAN. K. TENNEY, ESQ.

*The Daily Capitol*, published by W. J. Park & Co., with Col. Calkins as editor, appeared on the day on which President Lincoln was shot. It was a racy, nonpartizan daily, eventually incorporated with the *Democrat*, which was established in 1865, by Hyer & Fernandez, and bought by A. E. Gordon. The title was then changed from *Wisconsin* to *Madison Democrat*. Mr. Raymer is now editor and proprietor, having succeeded the firm of J. B. Parkinson & Co., which purchased from Gordon.

The *Journal of Education* originated in Janesville, but was transferred to this city. Col. J. G. McMynn, afterwards state superintendent, was its editor, succeeded by A. J. Craig, also state superintendent. Rev. J. B. Pradt is now one of the editors. Discontinued in 1865, in consequence of a withdrawal of state support, it was resumed when partial aid was afforded. Several substitutes started elsewhere, but they do not come within our limits. When Gen. Fallows succeeded as state superintendent, upon the death of Mr. Craig, he revived the *Journal*, and Superintendent Searing continues the publication.

The *Wisconsin Farmer*, commenced under another name in Janesville, was removed to this city in 1855, the interest of one proprietor being purchased by E. W. Skinner and D. J. Powers. The paper was conducted with great energy by Dr. J. W. Hoyt, assisted by the skillful pen of his wife. The paper died after twenty years of struggle, beaten by extensive capital in such enterprises in eastern cities. The *Norse* press

has had severe vicissitudes. Many courageous efforts have failed; none conducted with first class talent, nearly all have been respectable. The names of some failures are given, but some may have escaped notice: *De Norskes Ven*, Friend of the Norseman; *Den Norske Amerikaner*, American Norseman; the *Nordstjernen*, Northern Star; *Immigranten; Billed* (or illustrated) *Magazine; Imigranten; Den Liberale Demokrat*, and *Wisconsin Banner*, have all perished. There remains only to-day the *Nordvesten*, a liberal democratic weekly, edited and published by L. J. Grinde. The *Nordvesten* deserves success. Ole Torgerson's *De Norskes Ven* was the first paper in a foreign tongue in this county. It was whig in politics, and appeared in 1850, but a few months ended its career. *Den Norske Amerikaner* appeared in December 1854, and died in May, 1857. "The Scandinavian Democratic Press Association" brought out the *Nordstjernen* in 1857. Their effort was not successful, although changes of management were tried. The *Emigranten* was brought to this city from Immansville, Rock county, but after years of partial success, that also was gathered to its fathers. There have been several fugitive periodicals of a religious character.

The German population supports the *Wisconsin Botschafter*, started by Porsch and Sitzman in 1869. There have been several German papers, but none have prospered. The *Staats Zietung*, democratic, edited by August Kruer, continued two years. The

*Madison Zietung*, republican, hardly lived two years. The *Madison Demokrat*, published in 1858, perished in 1860.

The *Madison Capitol* was started in 1855 by J. Nolan. The *True American*, edited by an association, appeared during the same year. The *Western Fireside*, by S. H. Carpenter in 1857. The *Higher Law*, by Herbert Reed, in 1861; and the *Soldiers Record*, by S. W. Martin in 1864. Our educational interests were served by the *Northwestern Journal of Education, Science and Literature*, in 1850, under the editorship of Prof. O. M. Conover, and by the *Free School Journal*, edited by J. L. Enos. Of Dr. Hunt's ephemeral, the "*Old Oaken Bucket*," a temperance paper, we can only say, *Requiescat in pace*. The *Student's Miscellany* was commenced during the session of 1857, and its tone reflects credit on the management. The *Home Diary* is a sparkling occasional paper edited by V. J. Welch, which deals vigorously with every topic that is touched. A paragraph, denouncing the shortcomings of Park & Co., in selling a copy of Burns' poems without "Holy Willie's Prayer," is a favorable specimen of the style, which we subjoin:

"Friends! be cautious in buying Burns' poems. We were saddled with a copy recently in which "Holy Willie's Prayer" was omitted. Park sold it to us. He is a Scotchman. He is one of the "presbyt'ry of Ayr."

"Lord, hear my earnest cry and pray'r,
Against the presbyt'ry of Ayr;
Thy strong right hand, Lord, make it bare."

## CHAPTER IX.

### MERCHANTS AND BANKERS.

Great changes have come since Madison was settled by four housekeepers, who procured supplies from the peddler's cart and the post office store. There were bright fellows in the settlement, but they dispensed with much that we deem essential. Tom Jackson, the Scotchman, whose whip-saw cut lumber for the capitol, before Wheeler was ready, was almost a manufactory. Tom illustrated the possibility of doing without indispensables, but not as they do in some parts of Scotland. His old log house was on fire, and the last glass had dulled his wits. Tumbling out of bed, Tom, who was called Jack for brevity, pushed his lower limbs through the sleeves of his jacket, and with many an adjective declared that "some fellow had cut off the legs of his pantaloons." The better appliances of life were more remote than the seedy unmentionables of Tom Jackson. Everything was in the rough. The park was the forest primeval. Prairie fires annually crossed from marsh to marsh. Game was abundant. Prairie chickens and quail were shot in the village, where bears, wolves and deer were not strangers. Many years later Col. Bird's hotel stood in an unbroken forest, and trees that now ornament

the park were planted at the instance of Judge Knapp, who risked having to pay for the improvements. The woods abounded with game, and deer were particularly plentiful until 1849, when the Winnebagoes killed 500 near the Asylum. They would have cleared the country, but the settlers interfered. The supply was important, when any man might depend on his skill for a dinner. The commissioners' store was not the pioneer. Simeon Mills was deputy postmaster and storekeeper before July, 1837. Mr. Catlin, his partner, says that barrels of salt and flour, hauled from Galena, were then worth $30 and $20 each. "Wild cat currency" was the circulating medium, and the notes of Judge Doty were at a premium. The legislature, during the session of 1838–9, passed a "stay law" against recovering debts. The predominant sentiment of the community was hatred of banks. 'Squire Seymour says that in 1839 there were two stores, three groceries, a steam mill, three public houses, and in all thirty-five buildings. Dr. Chapman mentions, in 1846, Shields & Sneden, Finch & Blanchard, and E. B. Dean & Co., as the storekeepers of the village. Fairchild's store came next. The population had increased from 62 to 283. The doctor was told there were 400 inhabitants, but many farmers were looked on as village residents. Messersmith's house, on Pinckney street, was in full blast, with a "wet grocery" down stairs and "the tiger" above.

The first help to Madison was the location of the capitol. The next, the arrival of Mr. Farwell, who

invested money and energies in permanent improvements. His fortune was not large, and part was invested elsewhere, but he brought the reputation of wealth, and turned it to excellent account. He systematically made known the beauties and excellences of the locality, and induced others to invest. His coming gave an impetus, labor acquired value, real estate changed hands, roads were opened and cleared; the press all over the union had paragraphs about Madison. We were no longer out of the world. The marks left by Farwell can be seen in our growth.

Until the capital was permanently located there was little progress. Lobbyists hoped that another site would be chosen when the constitution was adopted, and Milwaukee wooed the legislature. Fixity of tenure could alone justify expenditure on property. Hence the slowness observable in every branch of enterprise. That period of doubt had passed when Mr. Farwell came and invested in real estate in 1848. The business advantages and beauty of Madison were his constant themes, and he spared no expense in giving them publicity. Remunerative works on a large scale were undertaken. Mendota was dammed at its outlet, increasing the fall two feet, and Monona, lowered by the removal of an old obstruction, made a further improvement. Farwell became more beneficially associated with the growth of Madison than any of its pioneers. The inexhaustible reservoir, thus turned to account for industrial enterprise, created a demand for workmen. The lakes unfolded a promise

of wealth. When H. A. Tenney came, he was introduced by J. A. Noonan to all the celebrities in a few minutes. The little *coterie* in 1845 numbered few besides Governor Dodge, Secretary Floyd, Judges Dunn, Irvin and Miller, George P. Delaplaine and Mr. Mills. Manufactures and enterprise changed the aspect of society. Until Mr Farwell came, the place had never been thought worthy of a circus. When that distinction was attained the legislature adjourned to see the show. The villagers had depended on each other for amusements, but there had been ample leisure.

Improvements were made rapidly, and golden visions were common. The circuitous Yahara was superseded by a straight canal. At the outlet of Mendota a long building contained a saw and grist mill. Tibbits and Gordon built their brewery below the mill, and the court house was commenced in 1849. The old jail, once let as a shoemakers' shop, no longer met the wants of the community. Farwell started his grist and flouring mill in 1850, and opened two roads across the Yahara. The first dormitory at the university was erected in 1850, in a thicket remote from the village, hardly approachable. Prominent citizens began more beautiful homes and other improvements. Men became speculative. Ditching, planking and planting Washington Avenue, by Mr. Farwell, was an act that found no competitors, but in other ways his conduct provoked a spirit of emulation.

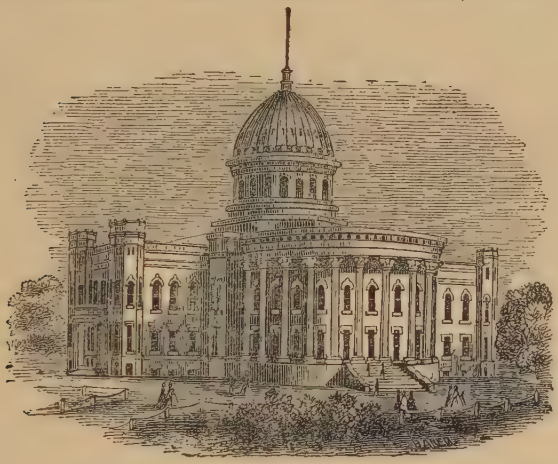
The years 1851–2 were prolific in the erection of business blocks. Public houses were found inadequate and the Capital House was commenced by associated effort. Messrs. Vilas, Fairchild and Farwell bought the venture in 1853, and the hotel was completed before the fall. Madison was a paradise for builders. The best positions were rapidly occupied for business. The Presbyterian church was finished, the foundations of the Catholic church laid, and the Milwaukee and Mississippi railroad company commenced building their depot in a growth of coppice wood on the spot occupied by the successors of that company. Early in 1854 the depot was ready, the bridge constructed and the first train of passenger cars arrived. The celebration took place on Tuesday, May 23, 1854. That was a great day for Madison and the surrounding country. Other works were undertaken during the year, including a fire-proof structure for the safe keeping of the state registry, a new bridge across the Yahara, a brick church for the Baptists, the second dormitory of the university, the extension of Washington Avenue, specially due to the liberality of Ex-Governor Farwell, and the commencement of the asylum for the insane. Men assumed that there would be a population of ten thousand here within two years. There was a woolen factory, a flouring mill, a grist mill, two saw mills, an oil mill, a mill for sawing stone, foundry and machine shops, two steam planing mills, besides other extensive undertakings, three daily papers and five weeklies, and a sale of

more than $500,000 worth of produce during 1854–5. Seymour's Madison Directory, in 1855, gave excellent grounds for anticipating rapid growth. The population was nearly seven thousand. Ex-Governor Farwell was offering desirable lots, with credit, extending ten years if required, provided that purchasers should occupy and improve. Telegraph lines connected Madison with the whole circle of civilization. Goods could be purchased at little advance on the charges in any metropolitan city, and some storekeepers said much cheaper. The American Express Company had an office, the Madison Mutual Ins. Co. had entered upon its successful career, and other companies had opened agencies. The State Agricultural Society had rooms in Bruen's Block, and there was every facility for coming into the world with the aid of science, remaining, with all the graces that art and dry goods could afford, and at the last being undertaken for, in a style replete with grace and finish, so that the end crowned the work. There were banks, a water cure, and it is difficult to imagine a want which Madison had not appliances for immediately satisfying. Over three hundred and fifty houses were built in 1854.

The Madison Hydraulic Company, to supply water from Lake Mendota, was a failure; there was a difficulty in procuring capital. The Gas Company seemed to be in danger, but the secretary, B. F. Hopkins, leased the works, and made the enterprise a success. In the same year, Ex-Governor Farwell commenced the residence, which was purchased as a

"Hospital for wounded Soldiers," next occupied by the "Soldiers' Orphans," then given to the State University, and since sold to be used as a Theological Seminary and College, by the Norwegians. Rapidly as the building mania spread, every new comer was forced to build, if his means would permit, so continuous was the demand. Trade prospects grew more encouraging, school houses were required, and churches well sustained. Madison became a city on the fourth of March, 1856, and Colonel Fairchild was its first mayor. The necessity for school houses was recognized by the city council, and $24,000 appropriated to erect schools. The City Hall was commenced in 1857, and the main building of the University was awarded to contractors, to be finished before November, 1858. The log house erected for Eben Peck was saved from falling by being torn down, after twenty years' service. About the same time, as if the old "tavern stand" must be identified with the capital, there was a new proposition to remove. The capitol was dilapidated, and rivals said that as a new structure must be raised, the time was favorable for a transfer. The city authorities met the difficulty by donating $50,000 in bonds, towards erecting the present edifice. That settled the question. While affairs were thus progressing, came the financial crisis of 1857. The crash was disastrous to Madison. Milwaukee availed itself of the confusion, to renew the attempt to remove the seat of government. Upon the third reading of the bill, there was a tie vote; but

by an adroit movement, the measure was killed for the session; delay, meant death. Many associations of public value date from this time, among which, we note: "The Capitol Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1;" "Mendota Fire Engine Company, No. 1;" "Madison Engine Company, No. 2;" the "Governor's Guards;" the "Madison Guards;" and the



WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL.

"Dane Cavalry." Already, the excitement arising from the troubles in Kansas, was producing an effect in military and other organizations.

The postoffice had long been established, and well served, but railroads had given greater completeness. Pioneers remember when the nearest postoffice was at the City of the Four Lakes, from which village there was a road partly cleared to Fort Winnebago.

When John Catlin and his deputy got into working order, things were better. Darwin Clark remembers the mail for the village being brought in a handkerchief. Newspapers increased the bulk, but for some months there was only an occasional copy of the *Cooperstown Freeman's Journal*, which had a wonderful circulation from hand to hand. There would have been more newspapers, as there were few books, and whisky drinking was not universal; but there was a strike among the hands. The men that came with Colonel Bird signed articles, with the understanding that their pay, $2.25 per day, would commence with the journey, but a proviso, that if they left within three months, there were to be deductions. The transit from Milwaukee commencing on Wednesday, ended eleven days later, on Saturday, so that there would be a large drawback on every man's pay, if he should quit the work prematurely. The trouble arose on the questions that still agitate the Union — paper money and resumption. The commissioners were said to have been paid the amount of the congressional vote, in specie, which they had deposited in the bank at Green Bay, the bills of which establishment were used for wages. The notes could be used with little loss in the territory, but every removal cost a "shave" of from ten to fifteen per cent., and even then the exchange might be made in "wild cat" paper, that would speedily lose all value. Hence the workmen demanded specie payments, and the commissioners deferred that operation. Many

would have left at once, but for the three months' proviso. A large proportion did leave as soon as that time had expired. There was little difficulty in supplying their places. There was not much employment in Wisconsin. Several strikes occurred. The stone cutters, at Stone Quarry Point, now McBride's, combined to get higher wages.

The prices charged for everything were enormous, and there was little margin, unless men limited themselves to bare necessaries. A man could get board for $5.00 per week, and lodge in the dormitory near the east gate of the park — the club house, sleeping apartment and literary assembly. But as soon as ambition suggested the desirability of personal adornment, or outlay for any other purpose, money took wings. Would the workman build a log house to prepare for matrimony? The barrier was not only that better halves were scarce and that the cost of calico was prodigious. Pinneo and Butterfield would have their own price for shingles, and the customer must wait until there was no whisky to be had on credit. Nails cost three shillings per pound; the brownest of brown sugar fetched a like price; a pound of sperm candles cost one dollar, and every article was proportionately dear. No wonder men struck for higher wages. Speaking of prices, we may revert to the charges preferred against the old commissioners and their contractor-partner, "Uncle Jim" Morrison. The amount of the two votes from congress — not from the territorial legislature, for that body had no money

to appropriate — was $40,000; and when the territorial authorities brought suit against Morrison, it was proved by measurements and vouchers that the basement alone cost $13,000. Moses M. Strong was the attorney for the territory, and Mr. Fields conducted the case for Morrison, so that there was no lack of zeal or ability on the side of the government, but the action was a failure. When the population had settled down to industrial pursuits, upon the return of the citizen soldiers, a directory was published, in 1866, by B. W. Suckow. John Y. Smith was the historian. Many prominent business men, in the record of 1855, did not survive the crash of 1857. Those who had invested in real estate, found that item the least *real* among their assets. Ex-Gov. Farwell had specially devoted himself to that branch. It would be an endless task to name the failures, therefore one instance may suffice for many. Tibbits and Gordon, a short time before the crisis, could have realized $60,000 beyond paying every cent; and when the storm burst, so hopeless was every effort, they could not pay fifty cents on the dollar. Gov. Farwell's ruin called forth much sympathy. He had built up the community, spending his own money in a liberal spirit and inducing others to invest. Men thrown out of their customary labor could remember the generous employer who had given work to hundreds. A policy less open handed might have enabled him to tide over the panic, but the village would have been much slower in becoming a city.

The crisis destroyed the value of real estate, closed up stores, factories, workshops and offices, threw men out of their gainful avocations, and brought gaunt famine near to many doors which had been fondly thought secure from its dread approach.

After the crisis, some mills were resumed, and in 1866, the manufactories of the city included the flouring mill built by the ex-governor, owned by Mr. Briggs; a woolen factory, the steam flouring mill of Manning and Merrill, and the iron foundry commenced by E. W. Skinner in 1851, on the corner of State and Gorham streets, sold in succession to W. S. Huntington in 1859, and to Andrews & Co. in 1864. The foundry of E. W. Skinner & Co. occupied the building raised by Gorham for a steam saw mill. The mill changed hands, and was made into a foundry by I. E. Brown. P. H. Turner bought the property in 1859, when the country was recovering from the crash, and Mr. Skinner became the proprietor, adding to his firm O. S. Willey and S. D. Hastings. That establishment, in 1865–'6, employed fifty men, besides canvassers all over the northwest. Beginning with one sorghum mill in 1861, it extended its operations to eleven in 1862, one hundred in the following year, and in 1865 more than five hundred. The Capital Iron Works, owned by J. E. Baker and operated by Mr. Stillman, had been entered upon in 1865 There were, besides, two planing mills, three cabinet ware manufactories, and great hopes that the peat beds would become factors of immense prosperity.

The Agricultural Society, a young institution when Mr. Seymour published his directory, had grown strong, and the old rooms were to be given up for the better location in the capitol. The patriotism of the society in vacating its grounds for military use rendered it impossible to hold exhibitions from 1861 to 1863; but in September, 1864, Camp Randall having well nigh completed its military avocation, was available for the arts of peace. The value of the institution is beyond praise. It has stimulated agricultural and inventive industry and skill, largely to the advantage of our city and state. Abraham Lincoln, then not dreaming of the presidency, honored the society on one occasion by delivering the annual address. Other orators, well worthy of being particularized, are omitted for want of space.

The State Hospital for the Insane was commenced under an act passed by the legislature when Gov. Barstow was in office, in 1854, but in consequence of a misunderstanding, the contractor, Andrew Proudfit, did not proceed. There was no blame attaching to him, and he recovered damages. Two years later the scheme was revived, but the original name of Lunatic Asylum was changed to the title now in use. The contractor, in 1857, was compelled to abandon the enterprise, but the building was made ready in 1860. Col. S. V. Shipman was the architect; additions were made in 1861. Dr. Clement was medical superintendent in 1860, and Dr. Favill assistant. In 1864, Dr. Van Norstrand became medical superintendent, and

Dr. Sawyer assistant. There was no change in the office of matron, which continues to be filled by Mrs. M. C. Halliday.

The fact that the capitol graces Madison is due to the business tact of the citizens. The grant of $50,000 in city bonds has been mentioned. The east wing was undertaken in 1857, and the legislature occupied the building in 1859. The west wing was commenced in 1861, amid the discouragements and financial pressure incident to civil war, and that wing was finished in 1863. The north wing, the south wing, and the rotunda followed in the order named, the dome being completed before the commencement of this decade. The material is not so good as the beauty of the structure demanded, but the commissioners did the best possible under the circumstances. The internal finish is admirable, and the conveniences afforded for the several departments are all that can be desired. Few persons visit Madison without mounting the wide iron stairs that lead from the upper floor to the second, in which are found the chambers of the senate and assembly, the supreme court, the state library, and the still more attractive collections of the state historical society.

The State Bank, on Pinckney st., between Tenney's and Bruen's blocks, was opened in January, 1853, with a capital of $50,000, under the direction of President Samuel Marshall and Cashier J. A. Ellis. The Bank of the West began on the second floor of Bruen's Block, in March, 1854, with a capital of $100,000,

and the officers were Samuel A. Lowe, President, and Wm. L. Hinsdale, Cashier. The Dane County Bank, in the same block, began its operations in October, with a capital of $50,000, the officers being Levi B. Vilas, President, Leonard J. Farwell, Vice President, and N. B. Van Slyke, Cashier. There was, in addition, in 1855, a bank of discount and brokerage on Morris street, of which J. M. Dickinson was manager and owner. Catlin, Williamson & Barwise advertised as bankers and land agents, dating their establishment from 1836, just a little before Madison came into existence. The Merchants Bank of Madison was organized in 1856, and commenced business in July. A. A. Bliss, of Ohio, and C. T. Flowers were president and cashier. The Wisconsin Bank of Madison, with M. D. Miller, President, and Noah Lee, Cashier, was also organized in 1856. The Bank of Madison began in April, 1860, with a capital of $25,000. The president was Simeon Mills, and the cashier, J. L. Hill. The First National started into vigorous existence in December, 1863. The board of directors consisted of L. B. Vilas, S. D. Hastings, N. B. Van Slyke, George A. Mason and Timothy Brown. The directory of 1866 only showed four banks in operation: The Farmers' Bank, the First National, the Madison, and the State Bank. Many of the leaders had entered into new combinations; some had disappeared altogether; N. B. Van Slyke had become president of the First National. The State Bank retained its first president, but procured a new cashier, L. S.

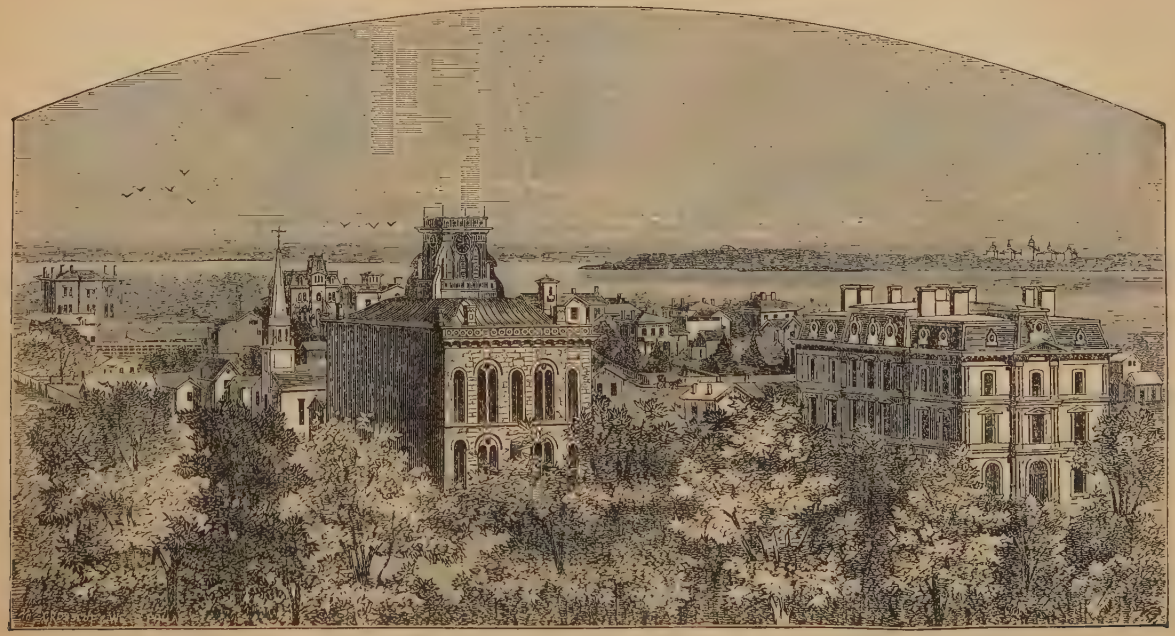
Hanks, who still remains. The Farmers' Bank had offices next door west of the State Bank, and J. H. Slavan was its cashier. Brainard's city directory for 1875 showed a total of five banks, comprising in addition to two of the four last named, the German Bank, on King street, near Main, the Park Savings Bank, and the State Savings Institution, the last of which has since ended in disaster. The Bank of Madison failed for a considerable amount. The loss fell heavily upon all classes because of the faith reposed in the financial strength of some few names. The banks now operating in the city are, The First National, with a capital of $150,000; the president, N. B. Van Slyke, deserves mention for the care with which he has presided over the finances of the State University; The State Bank, with President Marshall and Cashier L. S. Hanks; The German Bank of J. J. Suhr, on King street, and The Park Savings Bank, which commenced in November, 1871, and has transacted a business quite as large as circumstances warranted the proprietary in anticipating. Capital, $50,000. The president is Dr. J. B. Bowen, and the cashier, Dr. Jas. E. Baker, the offices being at the corner of Washington avenue and Pinckney street, in a handsome block, the property of Dr. Baker.

The time in which banks were dreaded by the poorer class and distrusted by the leaders of public opinion has, we may hope, passed for ever. Failures are inevitable; misfortune will overtake individuals; but the banker *per se* is one of the most useful citizens. He

is the medium by which wealth, which would otherwise be wastefully hoarded, can be brought from its hiding places to multiply the riches of a nation.

The post-office, once a small log house, is now one of our handsomest buildings. The United States courts are held in the same elegant structure, on the third floor. Business keeps pace with increased accommodation. There are 2,400 boxes in the post-office. The offices of the United States marshal; the assessor and collector of internal revenue; the pension agent; as well as those of the clerks of courts, the judges and the postmaster, are conveniently grouped under one roof. The structure forms one of our illustrations. Postmaster E. W. Keyes has marked individuality. For eight years he has served as chairman of the Republican State Central Committee with such good fortune, that, when recently assailed, his vindication was welcomed by men of every class. Upon his return from Washington, his welcome home was an ovation in which judges and others, dissevered from him in political life, bore a conspicuous share. Mr. Keyes studied law under George B. Smith, and is a member of one of our most respected legal firms. His father was a pioneer of note in the early days of Wisconsin. Madison must feel pleased that the executive ability of the party which has so long controlled the state has, from the beginning, been vested in a prominent Madisonian.

The factories and business houses can only be briefly mentioned. Breckheimer, Fauerbach, Rodermund,



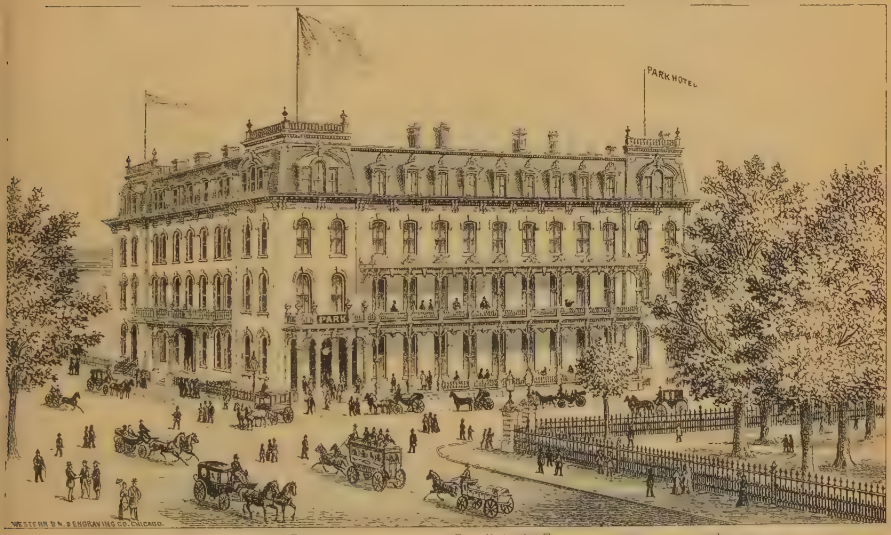
City Hall and U. S. Post Office — Lake Mendota in the Background.

Hausmann and Hess are the brewers; there are five carriage and wagon building firms; two bookbinderies; four book and job printers, English, and one German; seven carpenters and builders; one distiller and rectifier; thirteen dry goods houses; two express agencies; five furniture warehouses and factories; two founders and three machinists; three grain dealers; thirty-three grocers; six dealers in hardware; twenty-six hotels, including the Park, the Vilas, the Capitol and the Rasdall, which are the principal in the order in which they are named; the Madison Mutual and the Hekla are home insurance companies, and there are many agencies; there are four livery stables well appointed; manufacturers of and dealers in tobacco are six in number; there are fifteen merchant tailors; two omnibus lines; three daily papers, five weekly, one tri-weekly, one semi-monthly, and four monthly; we have one plow manufactory; two makers of pumps and windmills; one reaper factory; two sash, door and blind factories; two restaurants and thirty-one saloons; a soap and candle factory; a stereotype foundry; a soda water factory, and the Madison Woolen Mills. We have in all 450 business houses. The city has not reached the limits of its prosperity. Our agricultural resources are boundless, and the water powers have not been utilized to more than a tithe of their capacity. One man, whose name carries weight, says that we must not look to manufactures for a success, which will come much more surely and speedily to Madison as a watering place.

With proper deference, we look to both sources for a great prosperity in the future. The beauty of Madison is unsurpassed, but she must also grow rich by her factories.

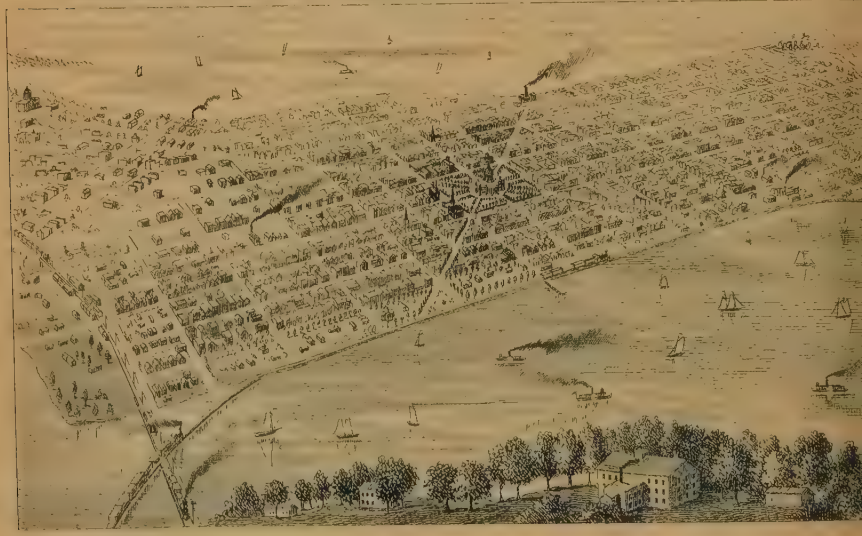
The railroads in operation are, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and the Chicago and Northwestern. The traffic is extensive. The demand for hotel accommodation is so large that years since that fact was advanced as a reason why the government should be located elsewhere. Several prominent citizens procured the incorporation of a company to erect and furnish the elegant building which is now our leading hotel. The enterprise was completed in 1871, being opened in August. The Park Hotel arrangements for the comfort of visitors have not been surpassed in the west, and for the number and variety of beautiful views from every window, the whole world hardly contains its superior. The first lessee, Mark H. Irish, commenced his tenancy in August, 1871, ending in the corresponding month of this year. He has been succeeded by Mr. A. H. West. The extensive frontage on Main street is ninety-five and on Carroll street one hundred and sixteen feet. The building consists of four stories above the basement, and is seventy feet high, built of Milwaukee pressed brick, containing one hundred and eighteen sleeping rooms, twelve private parlors, one reception room for ladies only and one for ladies and gentlemen, a general dining room and a ladies ordinary, general and private offices, bathrooms and suites of

"PARK HOTEL" SOUTH CORNER CAPITOL PARK




Madison, Wis. A. H. West, Proprietor.

BIRDS EYE VIEW OF MADISON, WIS. AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.



apartments with bathrooms attached. It is no disparagement to the other hotels in the city to say that the Park is the best. Capital, sufficient for such a building, could only be obtained by coöperative effort, and the support afforded from the beginning has been quite satisfactory. Mr. D. K. Tenney says, very wisely, as to the charms of this locality: "Madison and its surroundings are the handsomest on the face of God's green earth. This is our capital and should be turned to profitable account. No other place in the west possesses it. For all the purposes of pleasure seekers, for rest and recreation, for quiet, beauty and delight, for sporting and fishing, for sailing and swimming, for the intoxication and relief of all the higher senses, Madison has no equal; none to approach her west of the sea side. Madison, says a writer, 'rises between her beautiful lakes, like a gem pillowed on the bosom of a queen.' But thousands who ought to know our attractions are ignorant of them. Twenty years ago, Madison was written up, and people were acquainted with its charms but could not get here. A dozen fresh crops of tourists have sprung up since who have never heard of us; a new crop is on the road every year. Thousands would come to us for recreation, and spend their money here to the reviving of every channel of trade and prosperity."

## CHAPTER X.

### SCHOOLS, LITERATURE AND ART.

Those who came to build the capitol and make homes in its vicinity were mainly from eastern states where they had enjoyed the advantages of school training. Many had taught school, and it was a privation to be removed from books and other intellectual delights. Schools for the young were provided in due time, but the first want was an association for adult culture. Whist, euchre and "old sledge," were diligently pursued by skillful amatuers, who straddled a fallen tree all Sunday, engaged in that absorbing occupation; but the pasteboard ministers of pleasure would not supply all demands. The pioneers established a debating society with stated meetings, chosen subjects formally announced, and a regular organization, that afforded better employment for leisure. The log shanty sleeping room in the park, already named, thirty feet by twenty, was the hall in which the weekly tournaments of wit and wisdom were provided. The club house athenæum was a popular rallying place, and few lyceum courses have proved more interesting. There were no attractions elsewhere to militate against the popularity of the movement. The summer of 1837 saw the debates in full swing, and

they continued until November, when all the workmen except Darwin Clark were paid off. During the winter there were no meetings, because the debaters and audience had gone to Milwaukee, and the understandings of the minority were exercised in a dancing academy, the members of which celebrated Madison's first New Year, with two days devotion to Terpsichore. The zeal of the devotees may be gathered from the fact, that on the second day, shoes were dispensed with. Mr. Turveydrop would perhaps have found fault with such freedom of deportment.

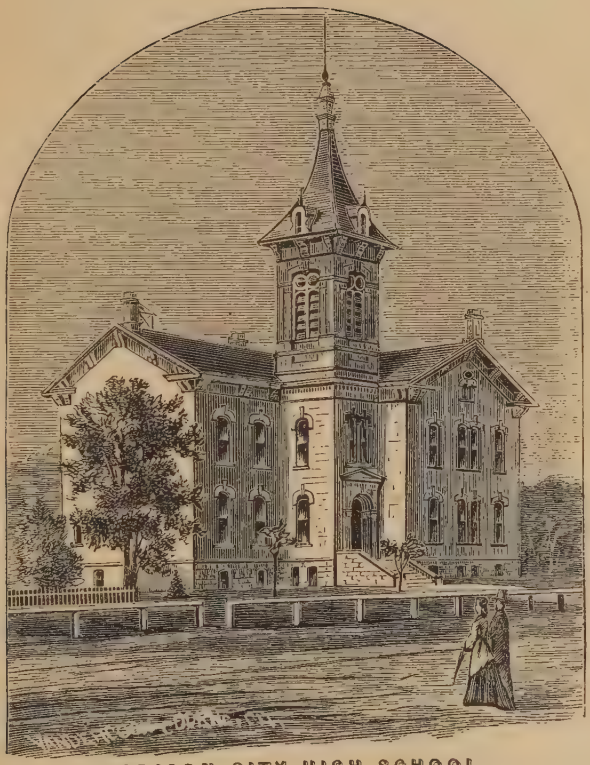
There was a renewal of the debating society in the spring of 1838, and many new members joined. Work did not absolutely cease the next winter, and the meetings continued. When the legislature held its first session in the village, home talent in the log shanty was pitted against imported eloquence, in the frozen capitol, and the more dignified assemblages were not always the winners. Sheriff Childs stirred up Morrison's pigs in the basement of the capitol, to drown the voices of some of his associates, but in the little athenæum, there was choicer music, as well as more courtesy. The leaders in literary debate were not called on to compete with vivacious porkers. There was an idle time in the summer of '39, work was scarce, and the weekly meetings tended to become permanent clubs, for retailing stories. Some of the master spirits of the "Thousand and one" were on hand. One of the latest efforts under the old auspices was George Stoner's interesting lecture on phrenology, il-

lustrated by phenomena. The lecture was published. The lecturer may again be heard from. His younger brother, James Madison Stoner, was the first white boy born in the village. The Madison Institute was an outgrowth of the minds that originated the debating society, an intellectual successor. Incorporated in 1853, its rooms were in Bruen's block, now Brown's; and the leading papers and magazines with some few books were procured for members and visitors. The winter of '54-5, was signalized by a course of lectures in which Horace Greeley, James R. Lowell, Bayard Taylor, Parke Godwin and John G. Saxe appeared. The library had then one hundred volumes, and other collections made up a total of about 13,000 in the hands of the state, the executive, the university, the state superintendent, the historical society, the agricultural society, the natural history association, the district school, and Mr. Draper, the invaluable collector and corresponding secretary of the historical society. The library of the Institute has largely increased, and is now located in the city hall, where it is open every afternoon, and on Saturday evenings. Some years have elapsed since the last course of lectures was undertaken by the society, and it is time to fix a date for resumption.

The first schools have been named elsewhere. Miss Pierce taught the girls in a building near the site of Dean's Block in 1840. There were then only thirteen pupils in the village. Mr. Searle opened his school for boys in 1839, and was succeeded by Mr. William-

son. David Brigham, Jas. Morrison and Burk Fairchild, as school commissioners in December, 1841, set off school district No. 1, which was subsequently enlarged, including a wide area besides the village of Madison. In the next year, Mrs. Gay opened a select school for young ladies. Two years later, the public schools were so crowded that tuition was kept up all the year to meet the demand. Four months had been the maximum. David H. Wright was the first teacher to carry out the extended term. The school room had a kind of shelf, called a gallery, on which the smaller pupils were placed when the more advanced scholars required the floor, and ventilation, on any principle, was neglected as an extravagance. Miss Smedley taught during 1845, and a larger building was found indispensable. The "Little Brick," school house on Butler street was a palatial structure in its day, but that also became too small. Jerome R. Brigham and Royal Buck taught there in succession for three years. Madison Academy had been incorporated, the village made a school district, and soon afterwards the preparatory department of the state university was opened by Prof. Sterling. The first graded school dates from 1850, with Jas. L. Enos, principal, at a salary of $30 per month, and Mrs. Church had control of the primary. Damon Y. Kilgore, superintendent, urged an increase and improvement of school accommodation in 1855. There were 1,600 persons of school age in the district, less than half of whom were attending school. Three grades were established by the board,

and there has been no material change since. The school board and trustees could not agree as to an authorized outlay of $10,000, and plans for new schools languished; but two years afterwards, Mr. Kilgore reported eleven schools employing fifteen teachers, the number eligible for tuition being nearly two thousand. School houses in the First and Third wards were finished and others sanctioned, but the money difficulty stood in the way. High school was taught in the old Congregational church, employing eight teachers for 133 pupils. That institution was in better quarters in 1860, but was then discontinued for want of funds, and for the same reason the summer term of the ward schools was abandoned. Miss Cones procured the use of the building and furniture from the board, and, at her own risk for a time, conducted a high school for young ladies. When Prof. C. H. Allen asked the city to provide better school training in 1863, there were nearly 2,000 of school age in the district beyond the number in average attendance. High school was reopened with about one-third of its former total, and soon afterwards the Fourth ward school house was commenced. State Supt. McMynn pronounced that building "the best in the state," and the Second ward was supplied with a like structure on the same plan. The school house in the university addition was finished in 1870. Three years later the high school on Wisconsin avenue was erected on the old site, and is much praised; but modern science suggests the desirability



MADISON CITY HIGH SCHOOL.

of more floor space and less stair climbing for all pupils, but more especially for girls, as more important than architectural beauty. Widely extended buildings of only one story, would not be so ornamental as the average of our school buildings, but they would be easier warmed and ventilated, and the results, in a physiological sense, would far outweigh every other consideration, among the best informed.

The High School is at present under the direction of Professor Shaw, whose efficiency as Superintendent of the city schools is a matter for the school board as well as our citizens to be specially proud of. The denominational schools connected with the churches of St. Raphaels, St. Regina and the Holy Redeemer, deserve special mention. There are excellent private schools, whose merits can only be glanced at. R. F. George is the principal of the Commercial School on Wisconsin Avenue and Johnson Street, and the Northwestern Business College in Ellsworth's block, of which Messrs. Wilmot, Demming & Boyd are proprietors, are schools of high standing. Add to these several institutions the college just opened by the Norwegian church in the old Farwell residence, and it will be seen that the sum total of facility for tuition in this city is scarcely excelled by any other place of its size in the Union.

The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters was originated by a convention in the state agricultural rooms in February, 1870. The purposes aimed at are explained by the title, and the spirit in

which the work has been prosecuted, justifies the assumption that "the foundations may be laid for an institution that shall be of practical utility, and a lasting honor to the state." The transactions of the academy have been published by votes of the legislature, and among the many valuable papers are some that would do honor to any institution of the kind; but which would hardly commend themselves to the directors of the daily press as popular reading, from the recondite matter introduced. Madison has given a large proportion of the officers of the academy for the current year. Professor Davies of the State University is General Secretary; Prof. S. H. Carpenter, Vice President for Department of Speculative Philosophy; Dr. J. W. Hoyt, Vice President for Department of Fine Arts; Gen. Geo. P. Delaplaine, Treasurer; C. N. Gregory, A. M., Librarian; and E. T. Sweet, M. S., Director of Museum.

The State University has added largely to the aggregate of literary culture, for which our city stands preëminent. It is our purpose to name some of the more prominent among our men and women of letters, briefly noting their contributions, and it is due to the University that we begin with a sketch of its accomlished president. John Bascom was born in Genoa, N. Y., on the first day of May, 1827, as we learn from "Durfee's Biographical Annals of Williams College." He is consequently now in his fiftieth year. Having fitted for college at Homer Academy, N. Y., he entered "Williams" in 1845, and graduated four years

later. Severe study, and the necessity to teach while pursuing his course as a student, weakened his visual organs, as in 1853 he partially lost the use of his eyes so that he was dependent on others for his reading, and for five years sight was not fully restored. Steadfastly pursuing his studies, Mr. Bascom graduated at Andover Theological Seminary in 1855, and was called to the professorship of rhetoric in Williams College. In the year 1858, he published a work on "Political Economy," to which his mind had been specially directed, while serving as tutor at Williams College in 1852–3. Four years later his second book appeared, a treatise on "Æsthetics," followed in 1865 by a volume on "Rhetoric," and in 1869 by "Psychology," a work treating one of the most engrossing subjects of modern thought. "Science, Philosophy and Religion" in 1871, the "Philosophy of English Literature" in 1874, and the "Philosophy of Religion" in 1876, may be taken as evidences that the lesson of five years in semi-darkness has not been construed into an excuse for taking things easily. The university duties devolving upon President Bascom are onerous, but they do not exhaust his mental force, and the superfluous energy of the scholar finds expression in additions to our literature, such as will cause the name of the writer to be remembered in future years. President Bascom is a diligent contributor to some of our leading quarterlies.

Prof. R. B. Anderson has long been a successful author. His graphic work, amplified from a lecture,

"America not discovered by Columbus," won recognition on both sides of the Atlantic. It is now out of print, but a new edition is demanded, and may be looked for shortly. "Norse Mythology" has gone through its second edition, and a third is in the press. "Viking Tales of the North" is just out, and the demand attests the author's reputation. Besides these works, by which Mr. Anderson is best known in this country, he has produced many pamphlets and larger works in the Norwegian tongue, including "Julegave," or "Yule Gift," and "Den Norske Maal-sag," or "The Norse Language-Question." His translation from the Swedish of the "Handbook for Charcoal Burners," a combination of prize essays on the subject, has attracted much attention. Mr. Anderson is professor of the Scandinavian languages, and librarian of the State University, in which capacity he has twice visited Europe, and will repeat the tour shortly, as a member of the Congrés des Americanistes, which will assemble in the Duchy of Luxembourg.. The professor is a lecturer of considerable merit, honorary member of the Iceland Literary Society, participating in all the publications of that association, Scandinavian editor of McClintock & Strong's Cyclopedia, and of Kiddle & Schem's Educational Cyclopedia; and has been appointed to deliver a course of lectures on Norse literature, at the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, in December, 1877. Circumstances have brought the professor in contact with many of the world's most renowned scholars and poets,

such as Max Müller and Whitney, Bjornson and Longfellow, and his collection of autographs is most interesting.

Prof. W. F. Allen was associated with T. P. Allen in producing the "Handbook of Classical Geography," in 1862, and with Chas. P. Ware and Lucy McK. Garrison in a volume of "Slave Songs," in 1867. In 1870, Mr. Allen produced an "Introduction to Latin Composition." Joined with Jos. H. Allen, in 1868 and 1869, he wrote a "Manual of Latin Grammar," "Latin Lessons" and a "Latin Reader," and during the current decade, associated with Jos. H. Allen and Jas. B. Greenough, has added to our literature six works on Cicero's Select Orations, *De Senectute*, Sallust's Catiline, Virgil, Ovid and Cæsar. Prof. Allen ranks among the most prominent Latin scholars in America, and is a constant contributor to *The Nation*, *North American Review*, and other such publications.

Prof. S. H. Carpenter was born at Little Falls, Herkimer County, N. Y., and at the age of twenty-one graduated in Rochester University, receiving from that institution in 1855 and 1871, the degrees of A. M. and LL. D. The professor commenced his career in our State University as a tutor in 1852, and has been identified with the interests of education ever since. His publications can only be glanced at, but their titles are descriptive: "Education a Mental Possession," "The Moral Element in Education," "Education a Necessity in a Free Government," "The Evidences of Christianity," "University Education,"

"The Drama," "An Address to the State Teachers' Association," "The Relations of Skepticism to Scholarship," "Conflict between the Old and the New Education," "Metaphysical Basis of Science," "Relation of Educational Institutions," "Philosophy of Evolution," "Industrial Education," "The Educational Problem," "Historical Sketch of the University," "Our National Growth," and still unpublished an address on "The Duty and Difficulty of Independent Thinking." Prof. Carpenter's "English of the Fourteenth Century," and "Introduction to the Study of Anglo Saxon," cannot fail to live as standard works; and he has translated from the French of Émile de Laveleye, "The Future of Catholic Nations" and "Political Economy and Socialism," besides contributing largely to periodicals of the highest type.

Dr. James Davie Butler, LL. D., was born in Rutland, Vt., and graduated at Middlebury College at twenty-one. Having studied theology in Yale and Andover, he next became a traveler in Europe, Asia and Africa, extending his researches into Polynesia by visiting the Sandwich Islands. Returning to his *alma mater*, he became a tutor in Middlebury College, and, in succession, professor in Norwich University, Wabash College, and in our University, in all, about eighteen years. He officiated as a Congregational pastor at Wells River, Vt., Peabody, Mass., and at Cincinnati, O. He has published "Armsmear," a memorial of Col. Colt; "Letters From Abroad," which appeared in Boston, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago and Mad-

ison, and valuable papers in *Kitto's Cyclopedia Bibliotheca Sacra*, *Quarterly Register*, and in connection with the American Institute and our State Historical Society. The professor is well known as a lecturer, and his occasional sermons are always listened to with profound interest.

Lyman C. Draper, A. M., LL. D., has rather aimed at preparing material for future historians, than at becoming a writer of books; but he has won for himself the title of "The Western Plutarch." His attention was early directed to the want of efficient collection, which prevented masses of facts, once well known, from being authenticated for historical use, and much of his life has been devoted to the rectification of that class of errors. Circumstances have aided him in some degree in becoming acquainted with notabilities, and his personal reminiscences of La Fayette, De Witt Clinton, Gov. Cass, Chas. Carroll, Daniel Boone, and others equally celebrated in their several spheres, would make one of the most readable volumes of the day. His collection of MSS. is certainly the most valuable in the west, and in the hands of a skillful writer, might be wrought into works of engrossing interest and great literary value. Mr. Draper has seen service in the field; has been justice of the peace in Northern Mississippi, editor of a newspaper, farmer, and since his removal to this state, has been identified with the State Historical Society, as we have elsewhere recorded. As state superintendent of public instruction, his labors deserve honorable mention.

His published works consist of pamphlets and school reports, evincing much research, the seven volumes of collections of the Historical Society with valuable notes, "The Helping Hand," a work in which Mr. Croffut assisted, and two works are now ready for the press; one, in which Mr. Butterfield was his colaborer, entitled "Border Forays," and, though last, not least, "The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence," a book full of careful compilations on the daring assertion of independence enunciated at Mecklenburg, N. C., more than twelve months prior to the time from which we date our centennial.

Dr. J. W. Hoyt, A. M., M. D., LL. D., is already known to our readers as editor of "*The Wisconsin Farmer*," but he has served the state in numerous other capacities. Worthington, Ohio, was his place of nativity, and in that state he was Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence in the Cincinnati College of Medicine, as also, at a later date, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History in Antioch College. The doctor was Secretary of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society; was founder and President of the Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, besides holding many other appointments of honor and usefulness, which defy enumeration. His services to the State University alone would require more space than we have at our disposal for this brief notice. His works consist of thirteen annual reports of the State Agricultural Society, and other reports on the resources and progress of Wisconsin; on the London

International Exhibition; on the Paris Exposition *Universelle;* on the Railroad Commission; as chairman of the National University Committee; a work on "University Progress;" and numerous monographs, industrial, educational and scientific. The doctor has a well stored mind, and its resources are ever at his fullest command for the work of the hour and the age.

Mr. H. A. Tenney has figured in many other chapters of our history, and he must not be forgotten among our authors. To him are due the earliest sketches extant of Dane and Pierce counties, and innumerable contributions preserved by the State Historical Society. He has been a Wisconsin man from a very early date. He has now almost ready for the press, a volume on "Early Humor in Wisconsin," which should have a good sale.

D. S. Durrie, whose unobtrusive labors in the State Historical Library have been too little noticed, deserves more than a passing mention. He has long filled the position of Librarian. His works consist of the "Bibliography of Wisconsin;" "Early Outposts of Wisconsin;" "Bibliographic Genealogy of America;" "The Steele Family;" "Holt Genealogy;" "Utility of the Study of Genealogy;" "History of the Four Lake Country;" and parts of the "History of Wisconsin;" of Iowa and Missouri. Mr. Durrie compiles with faithfulness, and has a conscience in his literary labors.

C. W. Butterfield was born in July, 1824, and has

prosecuted his literary labors with much good fortune. His principal works are the "History of Seneca County," Ohio; "A System of Grammatical and Rhetorical Punctuation;" "Crawford's Expedition against Sandusky, in 1782;" and in conjunction with Mr. Draper, Mr. Butterfield has produced "Border Forays." A new edition of Crawford's Expedition may be expected shortly. His "Washington Crawford Letters," have just appeared.

Rev. J. B. Pradt has long been a resident in this state. He has issued ten volumes of the *Wisconsin Journal of Education*, from 1860 to 1865, as editor and publisher, and from 1871 to the present time, as co-editor and publisher. Mr. Pradt has also assisted in issuing eight annual reports of the Department of Public Instruction; and an edition of the Constitutions of the United States and Wisconsin, with historical notes, questions and glossary.

Rev. Ames C. Pennock came to Wisconsin in 1844, and four years later, joined the M. E. Conference, preaching in this state and in Minnesota until 1862, when in consequence of impaired health, it became necessary to abate his labors. Mr. Pennock has had experience as a farmer, merchant, agent, author, editor and newspaper correspondent. He is now a publisher of books as well as a writer. His mind revels alike in poetry and prose, and those who have encountered him in theological controversy will long remember the event. He has published a brief, but very exhaustive work, on "The Fall and the Rescue

of Man;" also recently issued "The Problem of Evil, or Theory and Theology," and has written a volume of poetry.

Professor Nicodemus has now ready for the press a translation of "Weisbach's Engineer," a work of admitted value, which cannot fail to be recognized as a standard production. The translation from the Swedish, by Professor Anderson, of Svedelius' "Handbook for Charcoal Burners," was edited by Mr. Nicodemus, who contributed copious notes from the writings of acknowledged authorities. Many articles in the published proceedings of the Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters are due to his industry, and other additions to our current literature might be given, were it necessary to complete the catalogue.

Prof. Searing, superintendent of public instruction, was one of the faculty of Milton College, in this state, prior to his election to the office now worthily filled by him. His published works consist of an address on the "Character of Abraham Lincoln," delivered shortly after the assassination of the martyred president, and a school edition of Virgil's *Eneid.* The great success of the book last named, led to the preparation of an edition of Homer's *Iliad*, which was nearly ready for publication when Mr. Searing was elected. In consequence of his call to the unsought honor, the book has not yet seen the light, but its appearance may be anticipated shortly, and its success looked upon as assured, so great and well applied has been the labor, and so exceptionally elegant will be the

illustrations. Prof. Searing deserves high honor for the strenuous personal efforts by which he has earned his own advancement in the department of letters. His official services have been properly noticed elsewhere. His career has been highly meritorious, and substantially successful; he is yet only on the threshhold of his literary eminence.

Mr. John Y. Smith, who wrote a history of Madison, in brief, for one of the earlier Directories, was a writer of great force, and fineness of intellect; but want of space precludes a becoming notice of his merits.

Col. Slaughter has been frequently mentioned in our pages, and it remains only to say that as a writer, he is a gentleman of high repute. He is now engaged on a series of Wisconsin Biographies, which will widely extend his fame.

Jas. R. Stuart is a native of South Carolina, where his forefathers settled in the first half of the eighteenth century, hence probably his adhesion to the "lost cause" for which he fought. His scientific training was procured in Harvard, his first instruction in art in the studio of Joseph Ames of Boston. After some years of school teaching in Savannah, he was enabled to prosecute his art studies in the academies of Munich and Carlsruhe. Mr. Stuart came to Madison in 1872, and many of his pictures have commanded admiration. Judges Dunn and Paine, in the supreme court rooms, are from his studio, and he has also painted Gen. Allen, of Oshkosh, Judges Miller,

Smith and Jonathan E. Arnold, of Milwaukee, besides others whose names could not be given without express permission. The fineness of touch for which Mr. Stuart is justly praised does not detract in any degree from the faithfulness of his presentations.

It may be thought that the ladies should have been preferred to the gentlemen in noting the literary and artistic workers in this capital; we propose always to keep the more precious to the last. Miss Ella Augusta Giles, authoress of "Bachelor Ben," and "Out From the Shadows," has been honored with copious notices in metropolitan journals accustomed to wield the scalpel of criticism with little mercy. Her books survive such scrutiny, and further contributions from her pen may be anticipated. Miss Giles has now assumed the role of editress of the *Milwaukee Magazine*, which with the commencement of the coming year will put on a new dress, and become much more widely known as the "Midland."

Mrs. Sara C. Bull has recently entered the field of literature, and has already established for herself a brilliant record by her excellent translation of Jonas Lie's "The Pilot and his Wife." The leading periodicals on both sides of the Atlantic are loud in their praises of Mrs. Bull's book, and indeed she has chosen for translation a novelist whose pictures of Norse life cannot be surpassed. They are like the music of Ole Bull played by Ole Bull himself, or like sky rockets that burst in the zenith and fall in gentle showers of fiery rain. The Pilot and his Wife is already in its

second edition, and more books may soon be looked for from Mrs. Bull's pen.

Miss Ella Wheeler has won triumphs as an authoress in this city, and her residence in Dane county enables us to include her name among the *Littérateurs* that adorn the history of Madison. The young poetess came before the public first in New York in 1873, when "Drops of Water" was the significant title of her work. During the same year, and almost at the same time, her second book "Shells" was being published in Milwaukee, so that east and west were alike doing homage to her genius. "Maurine," her third production, has evoked much friendly criticism, but we believe that "The Messenger," a piece published by Harper and Brothers, New York, will hardly be excelled by any of her later productions, bright and telling as they prove.

Miss Wilhelmina Fillans, an artist of considerable merit, has been already referred to as occupying a *suite* of rooms in the capitol; but since that mention was made, Miss Fillans has removed to other quarters. The lady comes of a family of artists, and her skill is beyond question. Many of her paintings grace the homes of Madison, and her modelings are no less fine. Among which are a life-sized bust of Judge L. S. Dixon, and Chief Justice E. G. Ryan of the Supreme Court room, and also a crayon portrait of Gov. Taylor for the Agricultural rooms.

# CHAPTER XI.

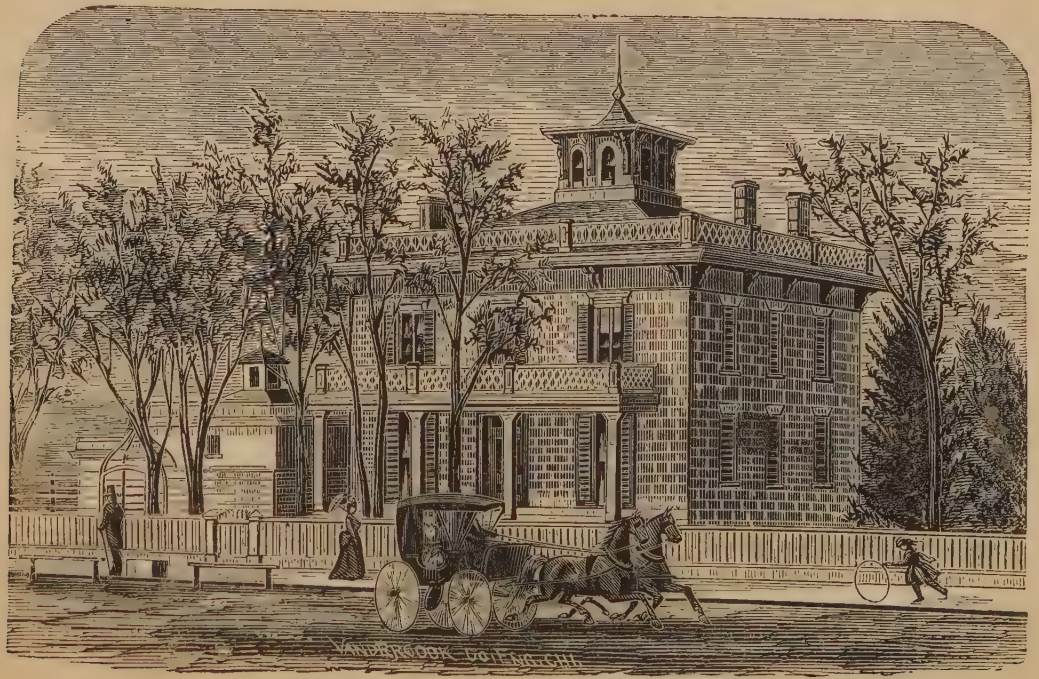
## MADISON HOMES.

Our title would justify a long chapter, but the limits allotted to our lucubrations have been reached, and we deny ourselves the pleasure of communicating to our readers many interesting details compiled with care. It would be strange if the charms of scenery, which have been praised by all observers from every part of the Union; which determined the location of the Capital and its retention here; and which won the admiration of the Antocthonous mound builders so completely, that they abode here for several centuries until war drove them out; had not induced many of our private citizens to erect elegant residences and almost palatial homes.

### ELM SIDE.

A little removed from the business portion of the city, about one mile southwesterly from the State Capitol, is located what is known as "Elm Side." In location it possesses a most charming view of both lake and city, and is the splendid residence of Dr. J. B. Bowen. The house is accurately represented by an engraving on another page. It is built of the light colored Madison stone, and is a substantial and

elegant structure, being finished in modern style, and supplied with modern conveniences. Connected with this charming residence, is a choice farm of sixty acres of excellent land — forty acres of which are under a high state of cultivation, and the remaining twenty acres constitute an extremely fine meadow. Much care has been bestowed upon this place, with a view to making it a most charming and inviting home. Many of the native oaks have been permitted to stand in all their sturdy grandeur; and over one hundred elm trees were planted on the premises sixteen years ago; they have grown luxuriantly, and now possess extreme grace and beauty. The elms — always handsome — on this place, have been so carefully trimmed, as to add special dignity and grace to their natural beauty. Taking everything into consideration — the native charms and the adornments added by man — this is one of the most delightful of the many elegant Madison homes, to persons desirous of living a little out of the city. It is such a home as cannot fail to give rest to its occupants, as they return to it, after the weary business hours of the day have passed. And who is better entitled to such a home, than are Dr. Bowen and his estimable family? It is now over twenty-five years since he located in Madison, without means and a stranger. He has acquired a fine property and hosts of friends. He was the pioneer in the practice of homœopathy in Dane county; has labored incessantly and successfully in building up a reputation and in accumulating a



ELM SIDE--RESIDENCE OF DR. J. B. BOWEN.

fortune; has served ably and faithfully as mayor of Madison; and the numerous patrons who have received benefits from his treatment will rejoice in his complete success, and in the fact that, in his palatial residence, he enjoys, in a high degree, the pleasures and sweets of substantial home comforts. He deserves them all.

The old prejudices have been well nigh removed in this vast caravanserai of nations and peoples, and every man who comes well vouched for, finds a home that may be made as happy as his first.

Society in Madison has been largely made up of men who have represented other parts of the state in some capacity, and coming here, have been tempted to prolong a temporary sojourn into a life residence. Men who can command the suffrage of their fellows must, as a rule, possess some excellence. The congregation of such minds makes a city a metropolis. The state officers make their homes in Madison and are, as a rule, handsomely lodged. The city officials include not a few who began adult life in this settlement, and have grown up with their surroundings, accumulating wealth with sound ideas as to life's enjoyment. The same may be said to a large extent of other officials, and it is still more true of our professional classes. The development of elegant tastes has resulted in beautifying this city until it challenges comparison with others of like dimensions and wealth, certain of victory.

The masonic fraternity dating its claim on human regard from Solomon's temple, and the fidelity of the Grand Master, Hiram Abiff, has three blue lodges, one Royal Arch Chapter, one Council, and one Commandery in this city. Brethren of the mystic tie make the five points of fellowship a sober reality in this region, and where the hailing sign becomes necessary, there is never a lack of response to the call. Labor and refreshment are alike regarded as sacred duties, and free and accepted Masons who understand the golden rule of life make the society which they tincture a desirable place of abode. Masonic Lodges, and the celebrations arising therefrom, were among the earliest social gatherings in this community, and they retain preëminence. Other organizations founded on the same general idea of brotherhood have a large aggregate of members. The Temple of Honor is also represented. Sons of Temperance abound in good works; and Good Templars are more numerous than, and as well organized, as the Templars of old time.

The Odd Fellows have two Lodges and one Encampment; the Druids have a Grove; the Germans have a Scheutzen Club, a Mænnerchor, a Dramatic Society, a Turn Verein, a Literary Society and other associations. There are also a Grand Army of the Republic; a County Bible Society and other affiliations so numerous in connection with the several churches, that no person desiring fellowship can long remain a stranger. The city has innumerable attractions for every variety of taste. That must be a strange intellect that would

ROSEBANK COTTAGE.

find nothing congenial in the numberless societies that open their circle to the worthy; nor any objects of interest in the vast collections in the rooms of the Historical Society, the Agricultural Association, and the Academy. The schools and churches have been named in their order, but their social value as organizations would deserve whole pages of comment and laudation. Our illustrations must afford some faint idea of the architectural beauty of this city, and the discreet reader will argue from the less to the greater. The University overlooking Lake Mendota tells its own story. Lake Monona, and the vessels of the Yacht Club furnish a handsome picture. One church must stand as the representative of many. The streets and principal stores are not entirely wanting in our illustrations. The view of Lakeside over Monona is beautiful as a scene in dreamland. The old house of Eben Peck, long since torn down, reappears as it stood in 1837. The view of the Post Office and City Hall, with Lake Mendota in the distance, is a charming representation which, in a general way, will give the distant observer an idea of the capital of Wisconsin. The presentation of the Capitol itself comes as near as the circumstances will permit to a reproduction of the original; and but that the expense would have been such as to have largely increased the selling price of the work, it would have been a pleasure to have completed the pictorial circle, so that the artist's pencil and graver might have done justice to beauties which the skill of the writer fails to present in adequate language.

## CHAPTER XII.

### VISITORS AND THEIR PLEASURES.

Pursuit of health has brought thousands to this city, who have found hygienic conditions not often combined. Beauty is a large element in relieving the pressure of nervous complaints by calling attention from real and assumed disorders. That charm is here in the superlative degree, and, in addition, a mild and salubrious atmosphere. There are exquisite nooks for bathing, and enclosures in which art has assisted nature in making the pellucid waters attractive, so that swimmer and nonswimmer can enjoy the health giving plunge. The amateur fisherman could hardly find better sport than here, and while patiently waiting for a bite, his eyes can feast on beautiful impressions, which can never be effaced. The lakes invite rowing and sailing; the shores unfold new attractions with every change, and steamboats make excursions with modest speed, lest visitors should not enjoy the landscape inclosing the crystal gem. Citizens propose to improve the drives which girdle the city and lakes. One suggests a road round Fourth Lake, following the shore, which would give "a drive of twenty-five miles, absolutely unrivaled for beauty." A second proposition contemplates a new

LAKE MONONA.

(Or Third Lake)

LOOKING TOWARD MADISON.

lake shore drive of five miles, to the charming site of the State Hospital for the Insane, and there is good hope that the idea will be realized. The beautiful university drive is likely to be extended to Picnic Point. There are rural retreats, easy of access from this capital, which shut out the city, yet within an hour's transit, all the advantages of social science and material advancement can be reached. Visitors are attracted by our university and pleased with our graded schools. The church spires pointing to the stars challenge admiring notice. The railroads and postoffice, with always increasing facilities, and the telegraph wires by which the world is girdled, bespeak the obedient spirit of science, more apt than the fabled Ariel. The Capitol, whose form of beauty compels admiration as soon as the eye lights on Madison, offers substantial evidences of civilization connecting us with the great world which we daily miniature. Here, in the several libraries, are choice books, newspapers and periodicals; the best works of jurisconsults; the treasures of common and civil law, expressed essences of knowledge from the days of Justinian to our own; and by their side the liveliest essays of magazine contributors, separating them from works of profound historians and scientists. On the desks are our best newspapers, in many respects the foremost in the world, filled with vigorous assaults of partisan editors, who anticipate the final cataclysm unless their measures and their men are sustained; yet reassuring us by the news flashed along the wires,

through mid air and under the sea, which, in revealing the condition of every country on the earth, from New York and London to Japan and "Far Cathay," unfold the fact that a thousand such jeremiads daily reach the limbo of nonfulfillment.

It has been objected that our population of ten thousand has not originated a line of steamboats that will compare, for beauty, power and convenience, with the Atlantic glories of Cunard or White Star; but the *Scutanawbequon* and the new screw steamer *Mendota*, possess names that rival the finest on the sea, and our boats, if not numerous and large as the Spanish armada, are equal to the occasion.

The names of celebrities who have visited us, as revealed by the books of the Park, the Vilas House, and the Capitol, would fill a volume, but few would peruse the record. Prince Napoleon, who passed through our city to Saint Paul, accompanied by his beautiful wife, the daughter of Victor Emanuel, *Il Re Galantuomo*, as Garibaldi named him, could hardly be considered our visitor, for he and his *suite* were closely cooped within locked doors, during the stay, but that could not prevent a cheer of welcome before the distinguished Prince *parvenu* moved on. It is more to our purpose that such men as Secretary Seward and Charles Francis Adams have been our guests, and raised their eloquent voices to infuse their spirit into the people. The balcony of the Vilas House, and the eastern steps of the capitol had on that day immense assemblies. Frederika Bremer was for

ANGLEWORM STATION.

months a delighted visitor to our city and lakes. Louis J. D. Agassiz, the eminent Swiss naturalist, of whom Whipple says: "He is not merely a scientific thinker, he is a scientific force. ..... The immense influence he exerts is due to the energy and geniality which distinguished the nature of the man. He inspires as well as performs; communicates not only knowledge, but the love of knowledge." He was an appreciated and appreciative visitor, and many in this city can testify to those truths from personal experience, who grieved as for a dear friend when Agassiz died. The magician Ole Bull, whose wand is the wonder working bow, has on the shores of those lakes a home, to which the demands of a music loving world make him a rare visitor; but when leisure on this side of the Atlantic permits, he can forget Oleana in the witcheries of this region. The praise bestowed upon Ole Bull by Longfellow in his "Tales of a Wayside Inn," beggar any tribute that we could render. We content ourselves with claiming the distinction that belongs to Madison. Horace Greeley and Bayard Taylor visited us as lecturers; during the same season Jas. Russel Lowell, Parke Godwin, John G. Saxe, and other national celebrities were with us, and their appreciative words are treasured. Sumner lectured here on the question, "Are We a Nation?" Gen. Sherman was with us as the guest of Col. Reynolds, when the famous "March to the Sea" was the topic of all talkers; and Philip Sheridan, not less famous for his dashing exploits with cavalry,

## CHAPTER XIII.

### MOUNDS, MONUMENTS, CAVES AND RELICS.

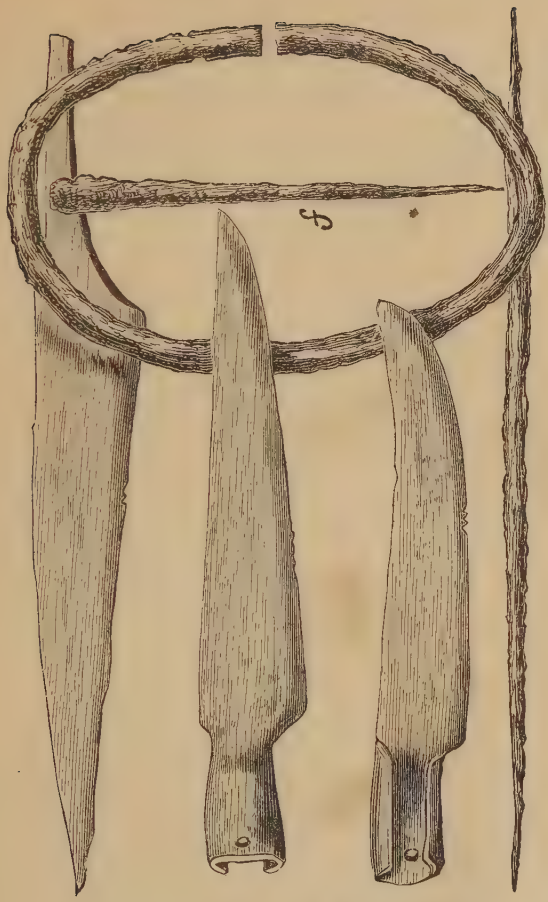
We live surrounded by monuments which point to the almost forgotten past, telling of our remote predecessors, the mound builders. The site occupied by our city was for a prolonged term, thousands of years ago, the abode of a people whose semi-architectural remains connect them with the civilizations of Aztecs and Toltecs, in Mexico and Central America. The *Teocallis* or temples, and the *Pueblos* or village houses, preserved by the more enduring character of their materials, in some cases, as at Palenque, Copan, Uxmal, long buried in impassable forests, are the wonder of the explorer; our monuments are only less complete. Where the central building of our State University stands, was a large mound crowning the eminence, but necessity compelled its removal. In other supremely beautiful positions, such mounds, all that remain of more extensive erections, bespeak identity in taste and judgment between the aboriginal occupants and ourselves. St. Louis was once called Mound City, because of the large number of eminences standing where that city unfolds her vast proportions. There are mound cities in many of the states. Cincinnati, Chicago, Milwaukee, among oth-

MARIETTA.

er cities indicate like agreement with the building of this city upon a spot on which the mound builders congregated. That fact is repeated in almost every large town in the Mississippi valley. Napoleon told his soldiery that from the pyramids, four thousand years looked down upon them; and not forgetting the words of Fuller, that those structures, "doting with age, have forgotten the names of their founders," it seems probable that this continent had an older civilization than that of the Ptolemies. Possibly this was the first habitable land then connected with Europe and Asia, and the home of a people who never dreamed of submergence by the barbarism, which has omitted to preserve, where it has not expunged their records. There are strange agreements, and variations no less curious, between some of the Egyptian structures and our mounds. Should the sands that flow on that land as the sea once rolled over Sahara, ebb back from the works which they partially cover, more significant resemblances might appear. We find no traces to determine the relationship between the people, unless the Ethiopians from Arabia Felix were the founders of both civilizations; but the likeness and unlikeness of their works afford evidences that similar ideas prevailed in the same or succeeding cycles in widely distant quarters. The discovery of America by Columbus, and by his predecessors, the Norsemen, are affairs of yesterday, compared with the primitive occupation to which the mounds bear testimony, dating from thousands of years before the Christian era.

Settlements in this region must have been large, so great were the remains that had defied "the tooth and razure of oblivion," until our civilization, with buildings and cultivation of the soil, made demolition rapid. Animal shaped mounds were here first noted. Dr. Lapham wrote on this subject to the papers in 1836; subsequently, Mr. Taylor communicated to the *American Journal of Science*, describing eminences with outlines of man and the lower animals, at distances ranging six, ten and twelve miles from the four lakes. So marked were the differences between our mounds and those in other states, that many concluded they were relics of a distinct race; but investigation showed agreements between the structures that dot the country from the great lakes to Mexico and Central America. Some of the curious mounds in this region that were in existence at recent dates, or are now, may be mentioned; but a complete record will not be attempted. Visitors coming to explore, will find no lack of indications to put them on the track of discovery. Dr. Lapham, assisted by the resources of the Antiquarian Society and the Smithsonian Institution, omitted surveys which would have been as interesting as any in his "Antiquities of Wisconsin," and Messrs. Squier and Davis, in the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley," were similarly unable to complete the catalogue.

A great mound on State street was used grading the hollows in that locality. Near Lake Monona, adjoining Ex-Governor Fairchild's residence, was a liz-



KNIVES, AWLS AND BRACELETS.

ard 318 feet long. The figure was rude, but not more so than was inevitable, considering that the mound was formed of surface soil, nobody knows how many centuries ago. It was removed in grading Wilson street and Wisconsin avenue. The mounds near the Hospital for the Insane are too well known to require description, and moreover, too numerous. North of Lake Wingra there were many mounds, embodying specimens of almost every variety, except works for defense. Five of them were oblong, twenty seven circular, one circular with lateral projections, one a bird, and two quadrupeds. Every writer on this subject is indebted to the surveys made by Dr. Lapham, whose work adorns the shelves of the Historical Society, with those of other authors who have made mounds their specialty. The south angle of Third Lake has extensive and regular works, in rows parallel with the ridges, occupying ground that slopes from the lake, like the seats in an amphitheatre. Back of these mounds is another, uniting the forms of a bird and a cross. At the foot is a sandy ridge having twenty-four elevations, on some of which additional eminences appear, representing animals. The twenty-four elevations may have been accidental, but they do not bear that appearance. The animal-shaped mounds upon them are clearly artificial. Dr. Lapham noticed a modern grave on one of the eminences, and on another the poles of an Indian wigwam, but no Indian can give an idea as to the origin of the mounds. The third volume of Bancroft's "United

States" contains a suggestion from Prof. Hitchcock that accident and natural action would account for many supposed antique works. There are earthworks that will not admit of any such explanation, and numerous circumstances connected with the majority are conclusive as to human ingenuity aiding their construction. Probably some of the twenty-four mounds were natural elevations, others having been added. All of them were covered with soil, and forest trees were growing on some of them when Dr. Lapham wrote. A ridge of land near the margin of a lake might be ascribed to the frosts of succeeding winters, but no such action could produce a series of mounds. The First, Second and Fourth Lakes have eminences that will repay inspection.

The world-famous "ancient city of Aztalan" demands greater space for description than can be afforded. The visitor cannot do better than spend a portion of his time in the rooms of our Historical Society, consulting the volumes mentioned and others yet to be specified, after which he will undertake inspection more intelligently, with much increased pleasure. Nothing short of actual examination can give an adequate idea of those earth-works. Between Williams' Bay, on Lake Geneva, and the head of Duck Lake, overlooking both waters, is a mound representing a bow and arrow, aimed at Lake Geneva. The span of the bow is fifty feet, the work, finely outlined, is in proportion. Lake Koshkonong skirts Dane county, miscalled Dade, in the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi

Valley," and the mounds in that locality have been visited by President W. C. Whitford, of Milton College, and Mr. W. P. Clarke. The party cut through some mounds, and were repaid by relics of great archiac value. A skull of excellent type was removed by them, and many fragments of pottery similar to the *debris* in the remains of the Pueblo Indians, besides tools, ornaments and weapons, which will reward a visit to the college. Some of the mounds have been used for sacrificial purposes, and others for burial, but whether originally constructed for those purposes must be matter of conjecture. Residence, fortification, burial and worship have been served by the mounds in varying proportions.

Assume a common origin for Mound builders, Aztecs and Toltecs, an affiliation which becomes easy now that the mounds have been traced to Mexico, and we can comprehend the purposes for which many of those elevations were prepared. In Mexico, and along the line by which the Mississippi valley mound builders must have migrated if they reached or departed from the magnificent cities of Palenque and Uxmal, there are wrecks of dwellings in advanced stages of decay, which illustrate the service rendered by the foundation mound. The earthworks were floors on which were erected the pueblos, supposed by the Spaniards to be palaces of nobles, attended on by armies of dependents; but in reality, common abodes, in which whole cities, towns or villages found lodgment, pursuing customary avocations, living together in com-

munistic equality. Some of those buildings would accommodate five hundred, in others five thousand could find room. The mound, sometimes faced and covered with stone, was itself a fortification, difficult of access, unless the visitor was aided from within. The platform being reached, the assailant, supposing war to be his object, found himself confronted on three sides by buildings, each story receding from the building line beneath, so that a stage remained available for defense. The edifice could not be battered down, the enemy possessed no artillery; could not be set on fire, it was faced, and to a great extent constructed with stone; could not be stormed, there were no doorways and stairs, the upper floors being reached by ladders and window entrances, which could be made unapproachable. Within that fortification the Pueblo Indians found safety against aboriginal war; and from windows and stages, as well as from occasional apertures for defense, missiles could be propelled with deadly effect. We find the floors of such buildings scattered through the valley of the Mississippi, but the vast deltas not being prodigal of stone, wooden buildings or mud walls were substituted. These materials decaying, the mounds alone remain. The Natchez Indians lived in houses of wood erected on mounds, which may have been their own handiwork, or that of long forgotten predecessors, when Tonti and La Salle observed their worship of the sun, and other indications of Mexican fellowship. The long house of the Iroquois, in which the tribe lived in com-

mon, with a fireplace for each family, shows that there may have been a time when nearly all were one brotherhood, acquiring customs since modified by circumstances, never wholly changed. The *Teocallis* or Temple mounds, of which there are many examples, had also crowning edifices. Features of resemblance remain where compatible with the partial use of perishing materials. The truncated pyramids approached by graded ways, and the final stages upon which sacrifices were offered, continue, because their constituents are little subject to decay. Professor C. G. Forshey followed those works with minute annotation through the Mississippi valley, and the reader can find the results in "Foster's Pre-Historic Races." Many of the mounds support trees estimated at from four hundred to a thousand years old. Capt. Jonathan Carver was first to invite attention to the mounds in the great valley, having examined works of defense near Mount Trempealeau. He also discovered the cave of Wakan Tebee, since destroyed by railroads, which had hieroglyphs or pictographs on its walls.

Much that pertains to this subject is omitted. Our book can be little other than a fingerpost, pointing to localities and monuments that will not permit of enumeration. The undeciphered hieroglyphs on Gales Bluffs, near La Crosse, are monuments that will not serve their purpose until the signs have delivered up their meaning. Sun dried bricks, bearing impressions of the hands of workmen; clay that served as a casing for a great man defunct, bearing

similar impressions of hands that shaped it over the corpse, preparatory to the burning which gave the consistency of brick; the burnt clay that is found mixed with charred straw, in the works at Aztalan; the ornaments of copper, silver, obsidian, porphyry and green stone, the tools and weapons by which men sustained themselves and little ones, are of the highest interest. The telescopic tube of stone, with which the mound builders examined the heavenly bodies, as

PORPHYRY.

GREENSTONE.

appears on a Peruvian relic, showing a figure carved on silver, bespeaks high civilization. The stone battle axes found at Kenosha; stone hatchets from Cottage Grove, from Green Bay, and from our immediate surroundings, are replete with human interest, because full of mystery from an age unknown. Some day we may master the problem which, sphynx like, demands solution, as to the tumuli systematically raised, enclosed in mathematical figures and lines of

circumvallation, builded by men who were conversant with mining operations, who could procure their own copper from the matrix, as well as shape it into artistic forms; who wove cloth probably when the lake villages of Switzerland were first settled; who could prepare designs in stone and clay, expressing thoughts that approach the sublime, and evince a comprehension of the beautiful; yet have fallen below the realm of history, leaving to generations now remotely following them, the task to discover "Whence came they?" "Whither did they go?"

DRINKING CUP.

By the kindness of S. C. Griggs & Co., the well known publishers, we present engravings of earthworks and other relics of the Mound Builders from "Foster's Pre-Historic Races," a book which should be in the hands of every thoughtful reader. The Mound Builders could not be omitted from our record, but a complete statement within our limits is im-

possible, and it affords us pleasure to refer the student to the fascinating pages of Foster. The works at Marietta were examined by Lyell in 1842. On that spot Dr. Hildreth saw a tree which showed eight hundred rings of annual growth. Prior to that time President Harrison had written a memoir, which went to show, that thousands of years must have elapsed from the first formation of the mound before such growths were possible. Every circumstance connected with the mounds points to a remote antiquity. Illustrations of utensils, weapons, tools and ornaments, might have been indefinitely extended, but enough has been given to suggest the degrees of civilization attained by the builders and occupants of the mounds in the Mississippi valley. The times in which they flourished cannot be safely computed, but Dr. Dowler found a skeleton at New Orleans, for which he claims an antiquity of fifty thousand years; and Agassiz gives an estimate of ten thousand years, at the least, as the age of human remains in Florida. The wondrous transmutations witnessed by this continent cannot be better illustrated than by the fact that the fossils of our rocks alone, reveal the form of the ancestors of the horse and ass; although there were no horses on this continent when the Spaniards landed in South America, save those which were brought by the invading soldiery.

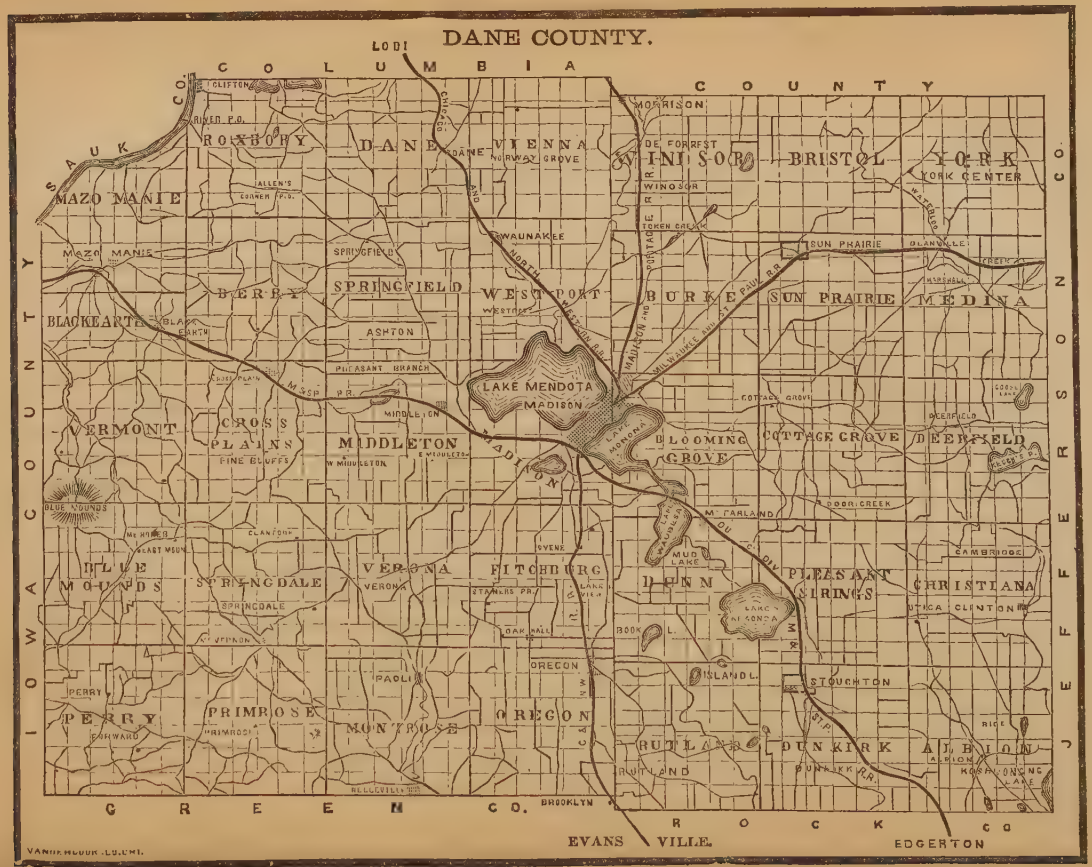
Enough as to our predecessors, although enough has never yet been said. We turn to other features of interest. Eleven miles a little to the south of

west of Madison, in the ridge dividing the valley of Sugar river from the lake country, is a wonderful cave, which unlike the "cave of the Great Spirit," discovered by Captain Carver, has not been destroyed

SEPULCHRAL URNS.

by railroads. The basin of a lake covering an area of four thousand acres, discharged its volume ages since into the bluff by which it was bounded, and has worn the channel into a series of chambers and passages, which have been penetrated two thousand feet

by explorers, who do not know the extent of the cavern. There is no lake to fill the basin, nor has it been ascertained where the waters found egress below. The Four Lakes are five hundred feet beneath the level of the basin, and Sugar river flows at a distance of about a mile and a half; but nothing indicates that the riparian current is augmented from the old lake level. Explorers, with proper appliances, will find within the cavern a field for romantic adventure and curious observation. The grotto opens in the upper magnesian limestone, beneath which a stratum of sandstone has been reached, and the action of the water cannot have failed to shape vast halls, which imagination may people with gnomes, fairies and dwarfs, sufficient for unnumbered nursery stories. The entrance is obstructed by *debris*, but four narrow passages remain; within, is a succession of chambers, ornamented by stalactite and stalagmite, that glisten in fantastic shapes when torches are introduced. Voices of visitors can be heard distinctly on the ground overhead, the roof is in some parts much attenuated. After a storm, when the waters have been dammed back from underground fissures, the air escaping, roars like a steam whistle. It is probable that fossil remains may be found in the many storied cavern, sufficient to fill our museums.


DANE COUNTY.
LODI
COLUMBIA
COUNTY
SAUK CO.
IOWA COUNTY
JEFFERSON CO.
GREEN CO.
ROCK CO.
CLIFTON
RIVER P.O.
ROXBURY
DANE
VIENNA
NORWAY GROVE
MORRISON
DE FORREST
WINDSOR
BRISTOL
YORK
YORK CENTER
MAZO MANIE
ALLEN'S CORNER P.O.
TOKEN CREEK
SUN PRAIRIE
BLANCHE
SPRINGFIELD
WAUNAKEE
NORTH WESTPORT
BERRY
BURKE
MEDINA
BLACKEARTH
BLACK EARTH
ASHTON
PLEASANT BRANCH
LAKE MENDOTA
MADISON
VERMONT
CROSS PLAINS
FINE BLUFFS
MIDDLETON
W MIDDLETON
E MIDDLETON
BLOOMING GROVE
COTTAGE GROVE
DEERFIELD
BLUE MOUNDS
M. FARLAND
DOOR CREEK
CAMBRIDGE
BLUE MOUNDS
SPRINGDALE
VERONA
FITCHBURG
DUNN
MUD LAKE
LAKE WINDSOR
LAKE WAUBESA
PLEASANT SPRINGS
CHRISTIANA
UTICA
CLINTON
OAK HALL
PAOLI
OREGON
ISLAND L.
STOUGHTON
PERRY
PRIMROSE
MONTROSE
OREGON
RUTLAND
DUNKIRK
ALBION
RICE
BROOKLYN
EVANSVILLE
EDGERTON
VANDERMOOR LITH.

# HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.

DANE COUNTY is situated about the center of the state running east and west, or midway between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river, about twenty-four miles north of the southern line of this state and Illinois. In the north it is bounded by Columbia and Sauk counties, on the south by Rock and Green, on the east by Dodge and Jefferson, and on the west by Iowa, the Wisconsin river crossing the northwest corner, dividing it from Sauk. This river has its source in the Lac Vieux Desert, on the Michigan state boundary, runs south to Portage, thence west to the Mississippi river, almost equally dividing our state, and draining in its course an area of 11,900 square miles. The county is forty-two miles from east to west, thirty miles from north to south, with an area of 1,235 square miles, thirty-five of which is covered with water of the lakes. There are thirty-five townships of thirty-six square miles each, except the townships of Black Earth and Mazomanie. The latter has eighteen square miles, and the former thirty. Its latitude is 43 degrees north, and longitude 89 degrees west, from Greenwich. The State University is one mile due west from the State House, and its geographical position is latitude, 43° 04′ 33″ 1-10 north; longitude, 89° 24″ 03′ 3-10 west of Greenwich. The State House is located on sections 13, 14, 23 and 24, town 7 north, range 9 east. The normal condition of the barometer is twenty-nine inches, as compared with the sea level, where it is thirty inches.

The county is famed for its pre-historic collections, there being few of its towns that are not able to exhibit some evidences of the people who long ago made our county a favorite resort for the building of their mounds, which whether intended as places of interment or as fortifications for protection, is as yet comparatively uncertain, though evidences are strong in favor of both hypotheses.

The county was the home of a branch of the Winnebago Indians, and considerable trading was carried on between them and several Indian traders, among whom were Michael St. Cyr (a Canadian half-breed), Joe Pelkie, Oliver Arnell (Canadian French), Abel Ras-

dall, Wallis Rowan,* and Albert Wood (Americans), as well as several others. Rowan was the only one who had a white wife.

In 1836 it was set off from the west part of Milwaukee and east part of Iowa county; it received the name of Dane county from Gov. Doty, in honor of Nathaniel Dane, who, in 1787, introduced the celebrated ordinance for the government of the northwest territory. In 1839 it was organized as a separate county.

The principal lakes in the county are First — *Kegonsa;* Second— *Waubesa;* Third—*Monona;* Fourth — *Mendota;* and Dead Lake or lake *Wingra.* They are about 210 feet above the level of Lake Michigan, and about 797 feet above the Atlantic ocean.

The origin of the above names cannot be better explained, especially as there exists a slight difference of opinion on the subject, than by presenting to our readers the following communication from Hon. SIMEON MILLS, one of our early settlers, whose intimate connection with the civil history of Madison will be deemed good authority, while the interesting facts supplied by Hon. LYMAN C. DRAPER, of the State Historical Society, will be read with an approved evidence of the steady research he gives all such subjects:

THE FOUR LAKES — HOW THEY WERE NAMED — BY SIMEON MILLS.

These beautiful sheets of water, the pride of Wisconsin, centrally located in Dane county, occupying part of five different townships, and stretching out, from northwest to southeast, a distance of about twenty miles, were probably called "The Four Lakes" for the same reason that the principal divisions of the year are called the "four seasons," because they are four in number. Just when or by whom the southeasterly one was named First Lake, and the northwesterly one Fourth Lake, does not at this day seem quite so apparent.

In Mr. Tanner's map of this part of the northwestern territory, which was probably the first map ever published showing these lakes, they are neither named or numbered, but the stream connecting them is called the "Gooshcahon."

When I located in Madison, in 1837, the lakes were then known as First, Second, Third and Fourth lakes, and the outlet the Catfish, and were not known or called by any other names for more than ten years thereafter. I was informed by Mr. Abel Rasdall, an Indian trader then living on the east side of First Lake, that the Winnebago Indians had no other names for the lakes but numbers,

* This was the Wallis Rowan who found Lieut. Force's watch. Passing across the prairie between Poynette and the City of the Four Lakes, where he formerly resided, he found the remains of an Indian, whose bones the wolves had picked clean, and giving the debris a kick, turned up the watch. Having no use for it he sometime afterwards offered to sell it to E. M. Williamson, Esq., who declined purchasing until satisfactory proof was obtained that none of Force's relatives existed. The fact, however, reaching the ears of the friends, application was made and the watch obtained.

just as we called them, and gave me the Indian names for one, two, three and four, but which I remember only as harsh, gutteral sounds, that I cannot now repeat; and his idea was that they were so numbered and named by the Indians. I was afterwards informed, upon what appeared to be good authority, that the lakes were first named by numbers by the surveyors who ran the township lines in this portion of the territory, and the way in which it was done, being given at the time, was conclusive evidence to my mind that the statement was correct. As the survey was commenced on the south line of the territory and carried north, the southeasterly or lower lake was reached first, which thus became No. 1, and as the survey advanced the second, third and fourth were reached and numbered in their regular order. In this view of the case, it seems to me probable that the Indians learned these numbers or names for the lakes from the surveyors, which Mr. Rasdall found in use when he came among them, and that this numbering was not, as he supposed, of Indian origin, the location of Mr. R., on First Lake, being some time after the survey was made.

In 1849, I employed a young man from Philadelphia by the name of Frank Hudson, to survey and plat what is known as the University Addition to Madison. Mr. Hudson was very fond of reading, devoting much time to such works as gave accounts of the habits and customs of the natives, and while thus engaged, he found in some Indian legends the names of Monona and Mendota (perhaps having an origin akin to Winona and Hiawatha), and he at once suggested that the lakes each side of Madison be christened with those charming names. This suggestion was generally approved, and a bill was prepared for the purpose of giving these names to the Third and Fourth lakes the sanction of law; but inasmuch as we did not readily find any names suitable or acceptable to give the First and Second lakes, the matter was dropped at that time, but Monona and Mendota were adopted by general use.

Some years later the subject of giving Indian names to all the lakes was again renewed, and the names of Kegonsa and Waubesa were found and adopted by Gov. Farwell and others then taking an interest in the matter, as very pretty and appropriate names for the First and Second lakes. To make the christening in such a public and formal manner as to give it dignity and command respect, a bill devoting an entire section to each lake, the more firmly to attach its chosen name, was prepared, introduced into the legislature, and became a law on the 14th day of February, 1855; and by the 5th section of the same act, "Catfish" was blotted out, and Yahara legalized as the name of the small river upon which these lakelets are strung like jewels on a cord of silver.

These names have now become familiar to all, and I can see no reason why they were not as well selected, as appropriately applied, and may not be as enduring, as if the christening had been done by the wildest savage that ever shouted his war whoop or raised a lodge pole upon their varied borders.

Gen. Mills' explanation of the application of the names of Monona and Mendota to Third and Fourth lakes, needs only to be

supplemented with the origin of those of Kegonsa and Waubesa applied to First and Second lakes, together with their significations.

Some time in 1854, Governor Farwell, when preparing a map of Madison and the Four Lake Country, subsequently published, applied to Lyman C. Draper to aid him in determining appropriate names for each of these beautiful sheets of water. The Indians denominated them collectively *Ty-cho-be-rah*, or the Four Lakes;* to which it is reasonable to suppose they applied numerical names; else, as in all other instances, they would have given some other specific appellation, which would have been handed down to the first settlers.

Mr. Draper examined such Indian vocabularies as he had in his library, and ascertained that *Mendota*, which had been applied to Fourth lake, was a Chippewa word, signifying large or great;† and being a pretty name, and appropriately significant, was rightly judged most proper to remain. The signification of *Monona*, applied to Third lake, does not seem to have been found in any of the limited Indian vocabularies consulted; but Gov. Farwell, or perhaps Col. A. A. Bird, had understood that it substantially meant "Fairy" or "Beautiful Water;" so that also remained unchanged.

As no special Indian names were known for First and Second Lakes, it was deemed advisable to select appropriate designations. First Lake, as the outlet of the others, was regarded as good fishing ground, on the southeastern bay of which, the Winnebagoes, in early times, had a small village;‡ so it was concluded to call it "Fish Lake," if some euphonious Indian name could be found having that signification — *Kegonsa* was found to have that meaning.‖ Gov. Farwell remarked that the only thing for which Second Lake was noted, was that an unusually large swan had formerly been killed there; and the word *Wau-be-sa* was found to signify "Swan,"* and was accordingly adopted as a fitting designation.

---

* Featherstonhaugh's *Canoe Voyage up the Minnay Sotor* (*Minnesota*), and *Account of the Lead Mines of Wisconsin*, in 1837.

† Long's *Voyages and Travels of an Indian Interpreter and Trader*, London, 1791, p. 267. S. R. Riggs' Dakota Dictionary gives the meaning of Mendota as *the outlet of a lake.*

‡ Map of the Lead Mines, by R. W. Chandler, of Galena, 1829.

‖ Mr. Draper, after a lapse of twenty-three years, does not recall the full authority for this; but *Schoolcraft's Indian Tribes*, ii, 465, shows that *Ke-go-e* was the Chippewa word signifying *fish;* and it is sufficiently apparent that Kegonsa had its origin in Ke-go-e.

* In Col. De Peyster's Miscellanies, published in 1811, this word is twice given as the Indian signification for swan, p. 83, and p. 272, probably Chippewa or Ottawa, as he had long public intercourse with those tribes during his command at Mackinaw, from 1774 to 1779.

Thus were placed upon this map of the Four Lake country in 1856, of which not less than ten thousand copies were circulated by the liberal hearted projector, the names of *Ke-gon-sa*, or Fish Lake, *Wau-be-sa*, or Swan Lake; *Mo-no-na*, or Fairy Lake; and *Men-do-ta* or Great Lake. Let these euphonious and appropriate Indian names be perpetuated forever!*

*Wingra*, or Dead Lake, lies southwest of Lake Monona, into which it discharges its waters. It was known by the name of Wingra at the first settlement of the country, but its signification is uncertain.†

Before the county became settled by the whites, the whole section of this country was deemed scarcely inhabitable. In a little book written by John A. Wakefield, Esq., who accompanied the troops that pursued Black Hawk in 1832, we quote the following as a sample of what was the opinion then entertained of this beautiful Four Lake country by those troops who accompanied Gen. Henry. After describing the thickets and swamps through which they passed from Rock river to the lakes, he says:

"We were close to the four lakes, and we wished to come up with them (the Sacs) before they reached that place, as it was known to be a stronghold for the Indians. * * * We reached the first of the lakes about sundown, when Gen. Henry here called a halt, and consulted with Poquette, our pilot, as to the country we were approaching. Poquette, who was well acquainted with the country, told him he could not get through it after night; that we had to march close to the margin of the lake for some distance, as the underwood stood so thick one man could not see another ten steps. * * * We soon discovered that the pilot had told no lie, for we found the country that the enemy was leading us into worse, if possible, than what he had told us. We could turn neither to the right hand nor the left, but were compelled to follow the trail the Indians had made, and that, too, for a great distance at the edge of the water of the lake. * * * From a description of the country, a person would very naturally suppose that these lakes were as little pleasing to the eye of the traveler as the country is; but not so. I think they are the most beautiful bodies of water I ever saw. The first one that

* An effort was made by Col. A. A. Bird, when a member of Assembly in 1851, to call the lakes "Doty, Catlin, O'Neal and Bird," in honor of some of the early settlers, but not meeting with encouragement from the member in the Senate, Hon. E. B. Dean, jr., the subject dropped.

† Hon. Josiah A. Noonan, when he visited the site of Madison, in February, 1837, learned from Joe Pelkie, the Indian trader, that Wingra meant Duck. This, however, is doubtful: for the Winnebagoes, who lived in this region, were a family of the Dakota group, and the Dakota Dictionary shows no such word; and the words for both duck and dead, have no resemblance whatever to Wingra, nor do the Chippewa or Ottawa vocabularies serve to throw any light on the subject.

we came to was about ten miles in circumference, and the water as clear as crystal. The earth sloped back in a gradual rise, and the bottom of the lake appeared to be entirely covered with white pebbles. * * * The second one must have been about twenty miles in circumference; the ground rose very high all around, and the heaviest kind of timber grew close to the water's edge. *If those lakes were anywhere else except in the country they are, they would be considered among the wonders of the world. But the country they are situated in is not fit for any civilized nation of people to inhabit. It appears the Almighty intended it for the children of the forest.*"

After reading the above we are forcibly reminded of the famous Morse telegram, "What hath God wrought!" We can now look around on the city in its beauty and the many villages and hamlets scattered throughout this very land, once deemed so uninhabitable.

The principal streams in the county are the Yahara, or *Catfish;* Koshkonong, signifying *The lake we live on*, is a lake, or "spread" of Rock river, and Koshkonong creek a small stream rising in Sun Prairie and emptying into lake Koshkonong; Black Earth, *named so from the color of the water;* and Sugar river, *from the number of sugar maple trees found in the vicinity of its mouth.** These streams furnish good water power for a large number of flouring mills and manufactures.

A large amount of good stone, for building purposes, is obtained throughout the county. The cream colored stone used in the body of the United States' Postoffice, was obtained in the town of Westport, where the government purchased, and still retains possession, we believe, of the quarry from which the stones were taken.

The highest point of land is one of the Blue Mounds, two conical hills about twenty-five miles west of Madison, and through which the county lines of Dane and Iowa run north and south, leaving the highest peak of the two cones in Dane, which is about 1,000 feet above the level of the Wisconsin river. The Indians called the mounds "Smoky Mountains," an account of a blue smoke or fog usually seen on the top, and which has given rise to the term Blue Mounds. The view from the top of these mounds is most magnificent. A distance of twenty-five to thirty miles can be seen from

* It is supposed by some that this stream received its name from the government surveyors in 1833, who were so delighted with the change from the bitter marsh water they had been drinking that they named it Sugar river," but as some of the maps published in 1829 designates one location on the edge of the stream, in Green county, "Sugar Furnice," the inference is, as well as the testimony of the early settlers there, that the Indians called it "Su-ga," from the above fact.

their tops, and the diversity of landscape is such as neither pen nor pencil can describe.

The country is diversified by hills and valleys of the most pleasing character for beauty of landscape, and the soil is composed of black deposits of decayed vegetation, except in some few localities where there are clay and sand. The deposits in the valleys are often several feet deep, while on the tops and edges of hills it is several inches thick, being thus adapted to all kinds of agricultural purposes.

In 1840, the population of the county was 314—1850, 16,654—1855, 37,714—1860, 43,992—1865, 50,192—1870, 53,096—1875, 52,798, which shows it to be the largest in population of any county outside of Milwaukee, as also being the largest tax-payer, with the above exception. The assessed value of property in 1846 was $50,319, and the tax $2,526, while in 1875 it was $19,546,438, and the tax $54,-705. The tax being more than the assessment of 1846. The bonded indebtedness of the county for 1876, was $22,000.

There are 123 churches, with a property valuation of $360,701.00. The school-fund apportionment for the county was, in 1876, $8,490.-69, and the number of children, 20,709. There are 206 school districts outside of Madison, which has eight school buildings.

There are three railways that pass through the county, the first of which, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul (formerly the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien), enters on section 32, in the southeast corner of the town of Albion, and then through the center of the county in a northwestern direction, leaving on section 18, town of Mazomanie—completed to Madison in 1854. One of the branches of this road, called the Madison, Sun Prairie and Watertown road, leaves Madison in a northeast direction, and the county on section 12, in town of Medina—completed to Madison in 1868?

The Madison and Portage road leaves Madison, and passes directly north, leaving the county on section 1, town of Vienna—completed to Madison in 1871.

The Chicago and Northwestern road (formerly the Beloit and Madison) enters the county in the south, on section 31, town of Rutland, and passes directly north into the city of Madison, after which it runs in a northwestern direction, leaving at the junction of sections two and three, town of Dane—completed to Madison in 1866. That portion of this road between Madison and Baraboo, before its completion to St. Paul, was known as the Baraboo Air Line.

The county is an agricultural one (with limited mining in Blue Mounds), and as such, as well as in wealth and population, is not

surpassed by any other, but Milwaukee, in the state. Its rich lands and beautiful scenery are not eclipsed by any county of its size either east or west, and its future prosperity will be equal to its past, as its resources, hygiene and loveliness of landscape become known.

On August 12, 1837, Simeon Mills was appointed the first justice of the peace in the county, and for sometime was the only one. The early pioneers had but few cases requiring legal prosecution, and when any one broke any of the requirements of law he was taken to the jail, which was the grocery and bakery of a French Canadian named Frank W. Shaw (over which the sheriff, Nathaniel T. Parkinson had his office), who was ordered to feed and treat him well, and then release him on parole. It is needless to add that there were none who violated their parole.

In May, 1839, the first election for board of commissioners for the county of Dane was held at the American House, in Madison, which at that time was the only voting place in the county. P. B. Bird, I. H. Palmer and Simeon Mills were *judges of election*, Geo. P. Delaplaine and La Fayette Kellogg, *clerk*, when the following officers were elected:

Simeon Mills, Eben Peck and Jeremiah Lycan, board of commissioners, and at their first meeting they elected LaFayette Kellogg, clerk; John Stoner, treasurer; Wm. A. Wheeler, assessor; R. L. Ream, register of deeds; David Hyer, coroner; Adam Smith and J. Ubeldine, constables; and ten days afterwards Gov. Dodge made the following appointments: John Catlin, district attorney; Isaac H. Palmer, judge of probate, N. T. Parkinson, sheriff; Isaac Atwood, public administrator; Geo. P. Delaplaine, district surveyor; W. N. Seymour, justice of the peace (in place of Simeon Mills, resigned); John T. Wilson, auctioneer.

In this same year the county was organized for judicial purposes, Judge Irvin presiding as Judge of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Wisconsin, with Simeon Mills as clerk. Mr. Mills held the office for nine years. He was also the last territorial treasurer, and the first state senator for Dane county.

The first judges of election appointed by the board of commissioners were: Prosper B. Bird, Darwin Clark, James S. Patten, Prescott Brigham, John C. Kellogg and Sidney Carman.

The first books and stationery for the county were purchased from S. L. Rood & Co., booksellers, stationers, publishers and binders, 70 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan, and an order was passed to

have the treasurer reimburse Simeon Mills for the amount paid by him for the same.*

THE first grand jury for the county and United States courts in Wisconsin territory, David Irvin, of the 3d judicial district, presiding, was impaneled on the 7th day of October, 1839, and consisted of the following persons:

George H. Slaughter, foreman, J. Lyman, Jr., W. T. Sterling, H. Lawrence, George Vroman, R. L. Ream, I. H. Palmer, W. W. Wyman, H. Fake, J. A. Noonan, P. P. Bird, I. Atwood, A. Lull, D. Hyer, J. Stoner.

The following were on the list given, but were not impaneled:

M. Blaker, J. C. Kelley, W. B. Long, B. Haney, and E. Brigham.

They served two days and were allowed one dollar and fifty cents a day. Mileage was allowed only to two, and that only one way, as follows: George H. Slaughter, 14 miles, and H. Lawrence, 16 miles. The distance traveled is recorded so honestly that the county was gainer then of nearly a mile.

THE first petit jurors were summoned on the 8th day of October, 1839, but were discharged for want of a case. Their names are as follows:

W. D. Spaulding, R. H. Palmer, P. W. Matts, H. C. Fellows, J. T. Wilson, W. Hoadley, C. H. Bird, Z. Bird, C. Lawrence, Darwin Clark, J. S. Patten, W. A. Webb, J. A. Hill, C. S. Peaslee, W. G. Van Bergen, J. Taylor, T. Jackson, J. Butterfield, W. N. Seymour, T. Perry and A. Smith.

The sheriff, N. T. Parkinson, was allowed ten dollars for his services in summoning the jury, and six dollars for three days' attenddance.

THE first indictment in the county was the United States against one Scoville, a fisherman, for obstructing a stream to prevent the passage of fish, dated October 9, 1839.

THE first in chancery, for foreclosure of mortgage, was A. A. Bird against Wm. Bevard.

---

* Sydney L. Rood, the senior member of the above firm, a few years afterwards removed to Milwaukee, where for many years he carried on the same business. Mr. Mills, recalling the conversation he had with him while purchasing the books, says he believes he was instrumental in inducing him to come to Wisconsin. He died in Milwaukee only two or three years ago. A memorable incident is connected with the purchase. Before concluding the sale, a cry of "fire" was raised, and passing out of the store to where the alarm came from, Mr. Mills saw one of the splendid lake steamers in flames, and which burned to the water's edge.

On September 30, 1839, a bounty of three dollars was allowed on every wolf's scalp that had been killed, but no legal charges allowed for making affidavit or certificate of the same, and again, on October 3d of the same year the order was amended so as to allow only one dollar for each scalp, while for the year 1841 no bounty was allowed, and only for six months of 1842, dated January 4th.

On the 1st of July, 1839, in order to allay some contentment in regard to the assessments, the clerk of the board was authorized to alter the assessment roll so that first rate lands be valued at six dollars an acre, and second rate at four dollars, and town lots in accordance with such changes as the commissioners deemed necessary.

The first license issued in the county was granted to Berry Haney and H. F. Crossman to keep a ferry across Wisconsin river, and dates August 5th, 1839.

The tavern license in 1839 was, for Madison, $20, and for other parts of the county, $12, while groceries were not allowed to sell less than one quart in quantities, and pay $30 for license. On December 14, 1839, a license was granted to Wm. T. Sterling to keep a tavern for one year, and also to Lloyd and Nichols to keep a grocery for one year from December 1st to May 14, 1841. The board ordered peddler's license to be issued at $10 per year, and on 25th of June, Arabut Ludlow took out the first peddler's license for goods, wares and merchandise, for three months, and had the same renewed September 29th for six months longer.

On the first settlement with the county treasurer, John Stoner, January 5, 1840, the books showed the county indebted to him for $55.96, and a final payment was not made to him until Jan. 8, 1841.

The rate of county tax for 1839 was one mill on the dollar, for the year 1840, five mills and a half for county purposes, and one mill for school purposes.

The first jail was built in 1839 by Nath. T. Parkinson, the first and then sheriff of the county. It was built of square logs and was twenty-four feet long, eighteen feet wide, walls eight inches thick, one story high, divided into two equal apartments, and cost $1,348. It was located on lot number one, block one hundred and thirteen, near the site of the little brick school house, on Butler street. The lots were donated for county purposes by Messrs. Pritchette and Mason, and the jail was the receptacle for insane persons as well as prisoners.

When the first circus came to Madison in 1844, people came in ox-teams from Sauk and surrounding counties, and brought with them their provisions, also feed and hay for their cattle, and camped in a grove of burr oaks between the city and the university.

The first castings made in our city were by Wm. A. Wheeler in the first blacksmith's shop on the corner of Butler and Johnson streets, block 111, and lot 18. Col. A. A. Bird assisted by blowing the bellows, and the casting was intended for some part of the new capitol then building in 1837.

The pigeon-holes used by John Catlin as first postmaster in Madison, were for a number of years in possession of E. M. Williamson, but who has recently donated them to the State Historical Society.

The present State Capitol was completed in 1869; the City Hall in 1857; Insane Asylum built in 1860; the United States Court House and Post Office, 1870; the northern dormitory of the University in 1851; the southern in 1855; the main building in 1859; the ladies hall in 1870; and science hall in 1877.

The present court house was built in 1850, the jail in 1853, the Register of Deeds and Clerk of the Court building in 1855; the county poor house in 1856.

Judge N. F. Hyer, for many years a resident in our county, was the first to discover and make known the interesting remains of the ancients found at Aztalan, and named the place after the Aztec race, who were supposed at one time to have lived there, as well as around that whole section of country. After the discovery, the judge wrote an article giving the plan and description of what appeared to him an ancient fortification, and so great was the interest created on the subject, that the article from first appearing in a Milwaukee paper, was copied throughout the United States and France. In the latter place, it was a subject of considerable discussion among the savans of Paris. The judge also for some years held the office of probate judge in Milwaukee, under the territorial legislature. He came to Milwaukee in the spring of 1836, and as chief magistrate was called upon to preside as judge of election in the following fall, and though a young man at the time, he nevertheless observed that of the six hundred votes cast, nine-tenths of them were by men younger than himself, which showed the class of immigration that was then coming into the Territory. He could count but forty roofs in the then infant city of Milwaukee, including barns and dwelling houses.

JUSTICES of the peace were permitted to assess the county with all the fees and costs connected with all criminal prosecutions, until 1843, when the Board of Commissioners ordered that no fees would be allowed by the county, except such as the statutes provided for.

THE first woolen mill in the city was conducted by Allan Dawson and sons, Scotchmen, and was situated at the end of Williamson street, on the edge of the Catfish, block 237. It was burned to the ground about 1859.

THE first blacksmith in the city and county, excepting Blue Mounds, was J. T. Wilson, who was also the first auctioneer.

WISCONSIN is becoming famous for its mineral springs, that are becoming much frequented by those suffering from chronic diseases, for which mineral waters are found to be an excellent specific. The artesian well in our capitol park is 1,080 feet deep, and the mineral water obtained from it stands high for its curative properties. We give the following comparison as analyzed by Prof. Gustave Bode, analytical chemist in Milwaukee, Wis., between Waukesha, Prairie du Chien, Sparta and Madison:

| | GRAINS PER GALLON. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Madison. | Prairie du Chien.. | Wauke-sha. | Sparta. |
| Bicarbonate of Lime | 8.120 | 0.6222 | 17.022 | 0.4020 |
| Bicarbonate of Magnesia | 6.937 | 10.9739 | 12.368 | 4.0310 |
| Chloride of Sodium | 0.671 | 90.2007 | 1.160 | 0.1430 |
| Sulphate of Soda | 1.138 | 12.7978 | 0.042 | 2.2143 |
| Bicarbonate of Iron | 0.555 | 0.2318 | 0.042 | 14.3350 |
| Silica | 1.456 | 3 8430 | 0.741 | 0.2860 |
| Bicarbonate of Soda | 1.956 | trace. | 1:206 | 0.2103 |
| Total grains | 21.233 | 118.7694 | 32.603 | 21.6166 |

Old Dane County Court House.

# DANE COUNTY TOWNS.

## MEDINA.

BY FRANK L. MORRILL, Esq.

The brief space allotted to us in this work will admit of but a meagre sketch of the general outlines of the township, together with a hasty review of some of the most important incidents which have transpired within its borders. At its close we shall endeavor to take a glance at its present condition and prospects, and the inducements here offered by nature, as utilized and developed by enterprise.

Location. — Medina is one of the eastern tier of towns in Dane county. It is designated by government survey as town eight (8), range twelve (12) east. It is bounded on the north by the town of York, on the east by the town of Waterloo, on the south by the town of Deerfield, and on the west by the town of Sun Prairie. The town is abundantly supplied with water, a small stream, the Indian name of which is "Maunesha," now called Waterloo creek, passing entirely through it. It enters the township at the

northwest corner and runs nearly parallel with, and in no place more than two miles distant from the north boundary line. All of the opening lands were formerly covered with a moderate growth of the different varieties of oak natural to this clime, interspersed with hickory, ash and basswood. The general surface of the township is level. The western part contains about one thousand acres of handsome, rolling prairie, while near the center of the town, the site of the present thriving village of Marshall, there are about five hundred acres of beautiful "prairie openings." The remainder of the township consists of "burr oak openings," interspersed with some of the finest marsh lands in the state; a large portion of which, by means of draining and seeding, have been converted into highly valuable hay land. With the exception of a very small portion of poor marsh in the southern part, there is scarcely an acre of waste land in the town.

The soil, with the exception of the prairie, is mostly a red clay loam, and equals any part of the state in the production of wheat and other cereals. It was here that the celebrated "Judkins wheat" was introduced into the county, by B. F. Judkins, the yield of which, during the last year (1876), ranged from twelve to twenty-six bushels per acre. Among other important products of the town, we might mention hops, tobacco and onions, which have all been successfully raised to considerable extent. The present population of the township numbers about fifteen

hundred; the most populous township, with one exception, in the county. The town was first settled, principally, by Americans from the states of New York, Vermont and Pennsylvania, together with quite a number of English families, who located in the southwestern part. In 1846, the Norwegians began to locate in the town, and at present there is a large settlement of them. Of those who came in that year, but two families now remain, those of Ole and Halver Aspinson. About 1864–65, the Germans also began to immigrate and settle in the eastern part of the town, and now constitute about one-fourth of the inhabitants of the entire township. Scattered throughout the town are a few Protestant Irish.

The religious character of the town is one of its commending virtues. Nearly one-half of the whole population of the town are members of some religious denomination. Among these are the Episcopal Methodists, who are a strong and prosperous body; the Close Communion Baptists, of whom there are a goodly number; a large number of Free Methodists; a strong church of German Methodists; while the majority of the Norwegians are connected with the Lutheran Church.

But while the morals of the people are thus carefully guarded, the educational interests of the town have not been neglected. There is probably not a town in the state which can boast of better educational advantages than Medina, with her far famed academy, her fine public school buildings, her effi-

cient corps of teachers, and the excellent attendance of her children at school. The town is divided into ten districts, two of them joint, in each of which there is a comfortable school house, amply supplied with all the modern appliances and conveniences.

The town contains two villages; Marshall, the oldest and principal one, which is beautifully situated near the center of the town, on a level plateau, on the south bank of Waterloo creek; it contains over three hundred inhabitants, and is compactly and neatly built, containing many tasty white brick residences, a fine academy building, three stories high, built of white Watertown brick; two churches, Methodist and Baptist; one of the largest town halls in the county; an excellent school house, built of white brick; a large brick hotel; a first class flouring mill; two wagon and carriage shops; several stores; two harness shops; two boot and shoe shops; together with warehouses and depot buildings, lumber yard, cheese factory, livery stables, and the customary saloon accompaniments. Deanville, situated one and a half miles west of Marshall, is a neat little prairie town of about one hundred inhabitants, and is an excellent grain market, being the center of a large and fertile wheat producing district. It contains some very tasty residences, warehouses, lumber yards, one store, a blacksmith shop, boot and shoe shop, etc.

Early History. — The first land entered within the limits of what is now "Medina Township," was by

A. A. Bird, Zenas Bird, and a man by the name of Petrie, all of whom were from Little Falls, New York.

These men entered into the following mutual contract: Zenas H. Bird, the younger brother, bought eighty acres of land, where the village of Marshall now stands, upon which he was to erect a "frame building" of suitable dimensions for a public house. In consideration of his erecting this house, A. A. Bird and Petrie were to improve the water power in the Maunesha creek, which flowed close by, and build thereon a saw mill, which they were to have completed and running within one year. This was in June, 1837. Zenas Bird went on and erected the public house according to contract. Meanwhile the other parties had got out the lumber for building the mill, and had drawn the most of it upon the ground where it was to be used. Zenas Bird and his "hands" went to the city of Madison for supplies, and while gone, the prairie caught fire and burned house, lumber and all. This occurred about the last of October, 1839. The frame of the house was not entirely consumed, but remained standing until 1845, when it fell to the ground, from which event the place derived the name of Bird's Ruins.

The first permanent settlement in the town was in the month of June, 1839, on section seven. This was by Volney Moore, Eleazer Moore and Henry S. Clark. They immediately began the erection of a dwelling house, and on the 3d of April, 1840, they moved their families from Milwaukee county to their new home.

Although so early in the season, Mr. Moore says the grass was then "knee high to a man." Here, in their rude dwelling, they lived for nearly two years before another family came into the town. Mrs. Moore has been heard to say, that "for one year and a half after coming here, I never saw the face of a white woman except my own daughter." The nearest house east was at Aztalan; the nearest one west was at Madison. It was here, in 1840, the first child was born in the town, William Moore, son of Volney Moore and wife; and on the 28th day of December, 1842, the first marriage was consummated in Medina, at the house of Volney Moore, at which time he celebrated the wedding of both his daughters, the eldest to Mr. Charles Lawrence, of Token Creek, and Sarah, the youngest, to Mr. H. S. Clark. Some years later Mr. Moore moved to Baraboo, Sauk county, where he now resides. In 1845, H. S. Clark and wife were baptized, and united with the "Free Will Baptist Church," and in 1849 he went to California, but returned in 1852. His wife died in 1855, leaving four children. In 1857, he married a second time, to Miss Maria Lane. He died January 5, 1875, having always been a prominent man in the town, and having occupied many positions of trust and honor. Eleazer Moore started for California in 1852, but while crossing the plains, was accidentally shot by a brother-in-law. In the years of 1842–3, seven other families moved into the town, three of them settling in the eastern and four in the western part, in the vicinity of Volney Moore's resi-

dence, one of which was Charles Wakeman. Thus, in the spring of 1844, the town contained but eight families — three in the east and five in the west part. There was but one road established, known as the Sun Prairie and Lake Mills road. Among the more prominent ones who moved to Medina this year were Moses Page, Martin Bostwick, Daniel S. Cross, Judge Reuben Smith, Sardine Muzzy, Willard Cole, Peter Sifort and Asa Cross. The first attempt at political organization occurred during this year. It consisted of the uniting of three towns in what was called the Waterloo Precinct, and on the 22d of September, 1844, the people held a town meeting at the house of Reuben Smith, at which election forty-one votes were cast, George B. Smith, of Madison, acting as one of the clerks. The second election was by four towns, under the name of Sun Prairie Precinct. This was held in the western part of Medina, at the house of Mr. Peckham, and a third meeting (special) called at Moore's school house, on section eight, a log building which had been erected in 1844, and at which place the precinct elections were held for a numher of years.

The first religious society of Medina was organized by Elder Moffat, of the Free Will Baptists, in the log school-house, on section eight, in 1845. The property of Mr. Zenas Bird, consisting of six eighties of land, passed into the hands of John Douglas, who began what is now the flourishing village of Marshall, by setting up the old tumbled-down frame, and constructing a dwelling house containing two rooms.

During this year he also commenced building a saw mill, which was not completed, however, until 1847, when it was finished by a Mr. Seely, the first physician who settled in Medina. The town settled up rapidly during 1845. Among others who came during this year were, Louis Stone, John T. White, from London, England, and Charles Lum; A. J. Allen, John Tracy, M. D. Currier, Thomas Hart, Jr., and others from Medina, Ohio.

The first religious meeting held at Bird's Ruins, was in 1845, at the house of John Douglas. The sermon (one of Whitfield's) was read by George B. Smith, now of Madison, from a book loaned by Thos. Hart. In the spring of 1845, G. W. Day established a store in one room of John Douglas' house, and brought the first barrel of whisky into the town, and it is reported that as he drew one gallon of whisky from the faucet, the stock was replenished by turning in a gallon of water at the bung; and the result was, that when cold weather came, the contents of the barrel froze up solid, and whisky drinking was suspended during the winter. Judge Reuben Smith, an active temperance worker, taking advantage of this circumstance, organized a Washingtonian Society; but when the barrel thawed out in the spring, many of the members violated their pledge, and the lodge soon went down.

The first school at Bird's Ruins was taught during the summer by Susan Tracy, in Judge Smith's house. Some time in the spring, Martin Mead buried his

wife, the first death which occurred in the township in 1846. Among other incidents of note, during this year, we might mention the construction of the first mill dam. The first church organization in the village was established under the auspices of the Close Communion Baptists. During the winter of 1846 and 1847, they held their first protracted meeting, conducted by Elder Green, at the house of William Parsons, in Bird's Ruins. A large revival followed, and the excitement being so great, they baptized at midnight by moonlight. Immediately following this, the Methodists organized, and held a protracted meeting at the house of Judge Smith, at that time occupied by a Mr. Shepherd. Their efforts, however, met with poor success.

The first wedding in the village occurred in January of 1847: Mr. Dorman Mead to Mrs. Catharine Douglas; and both are still living in Jefferson county, about eight miles from where they were married, a hale and genial old couple, loved and respected by all who know them.

Among others who settled in Medina, in the year of 1846, were, Louis Morrill, Jesse M. Smith, Silas Mory, Thomas Hart, Sen., Joseph Hart, C. T. Weeks, George Lewellen, and others. Among those who came in 1847 were W. E. Persons, A. M. Hanchett, and Urbane Parsons. Mr. Hanchett purchased the property of John Douglas, and established a store at Bird's Ruins. Up to this time, the nearest accessible postoffice was at Lake Mills, about ten miles distant,

from which place the mail was occasionally carried by passing teams, but usually on foot, by Mr. Urbane Parsons, this being the swiftest mode of conveyance, as the only teams possessed by the settlers were oxen. Being thus brought to realize the necessities of the times, Mr. Parsons personally circulated a petition, which eventually resulted in the establishment of a post office at Bird's Ruins, and A. M. Hanchett was made the first postmaster.

Early in the year of 1848, the legislature of the state of Wisconsin passed a resolution, that the township be organized into a separate town, by the name of "Medina;" the first town meeting to be held at Bird's Ruins. The first meeting was accordingly held on the 4th day of April, of the same year, in the house of Louis Morrill, at which time, the following officers were elected (Louis Stone, William H. Munger, and Gideon Ormsby, acting as judges): Charles Lum, William C. Rood, and H. S. Clark, supervisors of the town; Urbane Parsons, town clerk; Aaron H. Pinney, treasurer; Martin King, W. E. Persons, and D. K. Munger, commissioners of highways; S. V. R. Shepherd, tax collector; O. W. Thornton, M. D. Currier, Charles Rickerson, school commissioners; O. W. Thornton, W. E. Persons, and D. S. Cross, justices of the peace; S. V. R. Shepherd, and Nathaniel Larrabee, constables; Sardine Muzzy, Volney Moore, Aaron Pinney, assessors; Jacob Miller, Moses Page, W. H. Munger, fence viewers; A. M. Hanchett, Nathan Brown, C. T. Weeks, John Luke, and David

Ormsby, overseers of roads in their respective districts. At said meeting, the pay of town officers was fixed at one dollar per day, for actual service rendered. There is no record of the number of votes cast at this election; but at the next one, there were eighty-three.

In 1849, there was a good, substantial school house erected at Bird's Ruins. It was built of red brick, and comfortably seated for the accommodation of about seventy scholars, and paid for by a tax on the district, which at that time comprised about one-half of the township. About this time the village received the name of Hanchettville.

In 1847, a lodge of Sons of Temperance was organized by Geo. B. Smith and Judge Knapp, from Madison. It remained in existence for about one-and-a-half years, with variable success, and then passed away. In 1849, an Odd Fellows' lodge was organized in the brick school house at Hanchettville, but for some reason was sustained but a short time. It might, perhaps, be interesting to the reader to mention some of the inconveniences which were experienced by the early settlers in this locality. There were no roads in the town, with the exception of a wagon track cleared through the timber. And when we say "cleared," we do not use the term with its modern significance, for the road still bristled with stumps, and the wagons, as they rolled slowly along, tumbled over huge rocks, which had never been moved from their resting places. There were no bridges over the streams, and the routes were often

lengthened in reaching a practicable fording place, while over some of the low and otherwise impassible places, they had constructed the time honored "corduroy," so well known and much used in all new timber districts. Over such roads, by means of ox teams, the settlers were obliged to draw their products to Milwaukee to market, some seventy miles distant, while their groceries and other necessary articles of merchandise had to be transported back by the same tedious method. For many years there was no blacksmith shop nearer than Lake Mills, ten miles east of Bird's Ruins, and the settlers used to put their log chains into a bag, and slinging it upon their back, carry them over the rough and muddy roads to that place to get them mended. H. S. Clark has been known to take the "shear" of his breaking plow upon his shoulders (and none but those who have seen one of the primitive breaking plows used in those times can appreciate this feat), and carry it to Madison, nearly twenty miles distant, get it sharpened, and return with it the same day. The first anvil and pair of bellows were brought into the town by Louis Stone, and the first blacksmith shop was opened by his nephew, Jesse Stone and J. Thompson, under a large burr oak in Bird's Ruins, where they held forth for some time in the open air.

The nearest grist mill was at Lake Mills, and in the muddy season, when the road was impassible for teams, the settlers, in cases of necessity, would take some corn in a bag, carry it on foot to the mill, get

it ground, and bring back the meal. There are persons still living in the village of Marshall, who can well remember when the unvarying bill of fare was Johnny cake for breakfast, Johnny cake for dinner, and Johnny cake for supper, with its usual concomitant, "Wisconsin gravy." This was manufactured by taking a little flour or meal and stirring it in water, making a thin paste, which they spread on the corn bread. As civilization advanced, however, and times became more prosperous, some enterprising Yankee introduced sweetening into the locality in the form of cheap molasses, and then the better classes indulged in sweet corn bread once a week (Sundays). This was considered a luxury indeed, and was eaten with great relish, without sauce or gravy, butter being a "minus quantity" in those days.

As soon as the settlers could get a piece of land broken up, and procure seed with which to sow it, they raised excellent crops of winter wheat, ranging from thirty-five to forty bushels per acre; but on account of their restricted market advantages for a great many years, they realized only an insignificant price for their produce, barely sufficient to pay their taxes and purchase a few necessary articles of wearing apparel, together with their indispensable farming implements.

In 1852, Charles Wakeman purchased a wagon for $90, and sold No. 1 winter wheat at thirty cents per bushel to pay for it. In 1852, A. M. Hanchett erected the first grist mill at Bird's Ruins. He also

built a new mill dam, about twenty rods below the old one, and moved the saw mill down along side of the grist mill. The saw mill, after having accomplished its mission of converting thousands of feet of the primitive oaks into lumber, to the incalculable benefit of the early settlers, at last rotted and fell to the ground, the necessity for its labors being superseded by the increasing facilities of transportation, which enabled the people to procure pine lumber from the northern part of the state. The grist mill still stands upon its original site, and having been repeatedly remodeled and improved, is now known as the far famed flouring mill of Porter & Marshall.

In 1852 and '53, a plankroad was projected and built from Watertown to Hanchettville. The opening up of this great thoroughfare, connecting, as it were, this seemingly isolated district with the great business world, resulted in untold benefit and advantage to the settlers; and for many years the little villages which sprung up, as if by magic, along its line, were the scenes of bustling activity and lively enterprise. In 1853, the typhoid fever raged with great fatality throughout the town. Dr. H. H. Beebe, who had previously resided at Peckham's Corners, moved into Hanchettville, and although a young man, distinguished himself in treating this class of diseases, and gaining a reputation which time has fully sustained. He still continues to practice in the place, having by years of assiduous toil won the confidence and esteem

of the entire people, and an enviable reputation as a physician.

In 1856, the proposition of building a railroad from Watertown to Madison was agitated; about one-half of the inhabitants were in favor of saddling the town with a debt of $25,000 for the purpose of assisting the project, while the remainder were opposed. A special town meeting was called, and the railroad advocates were defeated by two votes. In 1859, however, the Madison, Watertown and St. Paul Company succeeded in acquiring the requisite amount of "Pledges," and constructed what is known as the "Madison Branch Road," locating a depot at Hanchettville and another at Deanville. Property holders anticipated great results from the effect of this road, in enhancing the value of property and building up the village of Hanchettville, and the unpretending name of Hanchettville gave way to the name of Howard City, in honor of one of the railroad contractors. But these anticipations were not realized, but on the contrary, actual adversity superseded the expected prosperity, and Mr. Hanchett was obliged to dispose of his vast property to Messrs. Porter and Marshall, who again changed the name of the village, this time christening it "Marshall," which title it retains at the present day.

While passing along down through the course of years, we would not forget to mention some of those who immortalized their names in the great war of the rebellion. Of the seventy or eighty from Medina

who responded to our country's call for volunteers, at least *twenty-one* never returned. The first company organized in the town was by Capt. Bradford Hancock. Among the killed from the town we mention: Aaron Twining, Silas Hatfield, Peter Lusk, Daniel Norton, Edwin Hancock, Hiram Miller, William Berge, A. Wilsey, Carl Kappin, Charles Matthews, Isaac Warren, John Cruger, Charles Wendt, Hiram Smith, Lucius Gregg, Delbert Lee, Wm. King, Charles Lintner, John Agnew, Charles Calkins, Butler, Merrey, Kinney and Hays. The town also sustained one draft, by which fourteen were impressed. Among the early pioneers of Medina, whose lives are intimately connected with the history of the town, but few now remain. A few have moved away, seeking to better their temporal condition by a change of locality; some of whom are lost to the knowledge, but not to the remembrance, of those who remain; others we have succeeded in tracing to their present places of abode, in different parts of our own and other states. But the marble monuments in the beautiful little cemetery just outside the village of Marshall marks the resting place of the larger portion of them. There are but *two* of the old settlers left in Marshall — Urbane Parsons, aged 76, and his wife, aged 82. Among those who still reside in the town are, wife of Asa Cross, aged 90; Charles Wakeman, 75; Stephen Mory, 82; Mrs. Agnew, 83; Mrs. Knapton, 76; Charles Lum, 70; Dean Chase, 80; Anson Warner, 75; Geo. Bashford, 84, and his wife, 75.

Among those whose ages are unknown to the writer are, Sardine Muzzy, Geo. Lewellen, Willard Cole, C. T. Weeks, Joseph Wilt, Willard Weeks, Asa Dewey, D. S. Cross, O. W. Thornton, Joseph Hart, Andrew Betts, Stephen Jones, Thos. Hart, H. H. Beebe, Silas Morey, Jacob Miller, Jesse Smith, W. K. Parsons, T. B. Wakeman, James Wakeman, Wm. Knapton, W. E. Persons, Thomas Fallows, and Ole and Halver Osbornson. Of those who are dead, we would mention, Moses Page, aged 87; Asa Cross, 90; Samuel Smith, 84; Reuben Smith, 80; Louis Morrill, 73.

Coming down to the present time, we would call attention to those, to whose enterprise and zeal the village of Marshall is indebted for its present prosperous condition. Among the live men of the place we must mention William H. Porter, the proprietor of the flouring mill, which he is having repaired and remodeled at an expense of from five to six thousand dollars; he is resolved to make it one of the first mills in the country. To this end he is furnishing it with steam power, in addition to the excellent natural water power upon which he has hitherto depended, and is now prepared to do all kinds of custom work and manufacture all the modern brands of flour. Samuel Blascoer, an old and respected merchant, supplies the surrounding community with goods, from the largest and best assorted stock of merchandise to be found between Watertown and Madison; his annual sales amounting to from thirty to forty thousand

dollars. K. W. Jargo, druggist, keeps constantly on hand a large assortment of drugs and medicines, toilet and fancy articles, glass, paints, oils, and a general stock of groceries. John Lindsay, dealer in boots, shoes and harness, a large portion of which are home manufactures. Herman Glagow, dealer in heavy and shelf hardware and stoves, and manufacturer of all kinds of tinware. Cramer & Co., dry goods and groceries; location near the depot. Peter Van Loan, wagon and carriage shop. J. O. Nordell, harness shop. John Sanders, boots and shoes. William Pickard, grain buyer. C. E. Bell, furniture and repair shop. E. J. McPherson, blacksmith shop. Geo. E. Allen, livery stable. Mr. Allen is also one of the best veterinary surgeons in the state, and has a large barn arranged into an infirmary, where he is prepared to treat the worst of cases.

As before mentioned, Marshall contains one of the finest academies in the state. It was erected in 1866, at a cost of $14,000. It was built by a joint stock company, but the credit of the successful and speedy consummation of the project is due, in a great measure, to the enterprise and energy of E. B. Bigelow. The Methodist church erected in 1869, at a cost of three thousand dollars, is a fine wooden building, and was dedicated in February, 1869, by Rev. Samuel Fallows. The Baptist church, a fine brick edifice, was built the same year, and was dedicated February 17, 1869, by Rev. O. G. Hoge; its cost being a trifle over three thousand dollars. We would not forget the

German Methodist church, about one and a half miles south of Marshall, a neat little building, erected in 1876, at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars.

Marshall Academy was opened January 7, 1867, with J. J. McIntire, principal, and Mary A. Cuckoo, preceptress, under the supervision of the following board of directors: Joseph Hart, president; W. H. Porter, treasurer; E. B. Bigelow, secretary; Louis Morrill, Samuel Blascoer, Thomas Hart, Torga Oleson, Jacob Miller and Samuel Fields. In 1869, the building was purchased by the Augustine Synod of Lutherans, and formally dedicated to their use in November of the same year, with J. J. Anderson as principal of the Academic department, and Prof. Weinass, of the Theological Seminary. It is now under the supervision of Prof. Henry Dorman, with F. W. Huntington, Teacher of Languages.

The town is now entirely out of debt, and prospering under the management of the following officers:

*Board of Supervisors* — William H. Porter, Chairman, R. W. Agnew and E. Zimbrich. *Town Clerk*— Henry Dorman. *Treasurer* — David Hames. *Assessor* — I. C. Knapton.

William H. Porter, Postmaster, has had the management of the office for many years. George H. Norton, resident attorney-at-law. H. H. Beebe, practicing physician.

## BLUE MOUNDS.

BY JOHN C. WARD AND IRA ISHAM.

The town of Blue Mounds is situated in the southwestern part of Dane county; is bounded on the north by Vermont, east by Springdale, south by Perry, and west by Ridgeway, in Iowa county. Two-thirds of the town is rolling prairie, and the balance good timber, with now and then a fine grove on the prairie. The soil is rich, a good farming country, and well watered.

This town was settled first by Ebenezer Brigham in 1826, on section 6. In 1828 he struck what has since been called the Brigham lead, on section 7, and hundreds of thousands of pounds of lead ore have been taken out of it. There are a great many other diggings in the town, but this one is the largest; and though some of them are worked until this day, the last mentioned has yielded about 10,000 tons.

A fort was erected here in 1832, on section 7, called the Blue Mounds fort, for the protection of the miners and inhabitants of the surrounding country. In 1831 or 1832, Mr. Brigham had occasion to send two men to his residence on section 6, to repair some fences, when a number of Indians, who lay in ambush, rose up and fired on them, killing one and then capturing both of their horses; the other man made his

escape to the fort, about a mile distant. It was also about this time that Lieut. Force and Capt. Green of the fort (the latter's family residing in the fort), rode out about two miles in a northeast direction on to the Madison and Mineral Point road, on section 9, and were attacked by Indians that lay in ambush among some hazel brush. Firing on them, they killed Lieutenant Force dead and wounded Captain Green in the arm, breaking it; he undertook to make his escape to the fort on horseback, but the Indians being also mounted, and being in large numbers, succeeded in surrounding him in a grove on section 16, where they killed and scalped him. Their bodies lay on the ground for about three days, until Gen. Dodge, from Dodgeville, came out with the rangers or volunteers and buried them just where they were killed. Their remains were afterwards taken up and buried near the fort.

Nothing of importance occurred from this time till 1844 to 1845. The permanent settlers of the town in the spring of 1845 were, Ebenezer Brigham, Jeremiah Lycan, Edward Dale, Ira Isham, William Rowe, and John Rowe. In 1846, two or three Norwegian families settled in the town, and quite a number of Americans. John Rider and a number of others came in 1847 and 1848. The first town meeting was held at the house of Ira Isham, and the following officers elected: *Supervisors*—Ebenezer Brigham, chairman; Thomas Heaney and Thomas Steele; *Clerk*—A. S. Needham; *Assessor*—John

Sample; *Treasurer* — Edward Dale; *Collector* — Jeremiah Lycan; *School Commissioners* — Granville I. Neale, Wm. Rowe, David Smith, Ebenezer Brigham, Edward Dale and Thomas Steele.

Game, such as deer, wolves, bears, prairie chickens, partridges, quails, etc., were abundant in those days. In the spring of the year it was nothing uncommon to see from twenty to thirty deer in a drove, and thousands of prairie chickens, partridges and quails, could be shot quite easy from a wagon. The wolves were also plenty, but very shy, seldom ever seen in the day time, and did not attempt to attack any human beings.

Three-fourths of the population at the present time are Norwegians, who are an industrious people and good citizens; the others are Germans, Irish, English and Americans. From 1845 till the railroad passed through Madison going west, there was a daily mail through here, and sometimes as many as four extra stages, all four-horse. There was a post office in this town as early as 1828, called the Blue Mounds post office. There is no East Blue Mounds post office, as sometimes by mistake it is called. There is a West Blue Mounds in Iowa county, and a post office in this town called Mount Horeb, making two post offices. We have four whole, and two joint school districts, and also good school houses. The first school district number one was established in 1846, on section 10, on the Madison and Mineral Point road. There are four churches, one Methodist Episcopal, one Ger-

man Methodist, one Norwegian Lutheran, and one German Lutheran; they are all well attended. We have no saloons in the town, and never granted licenses but once or twice, and then the whole time the saloon was kept was about three years.

At Blue Mounds F. Brackenwagon is postmoster, and keeps a store with a general stock of merchandise suitable for a country trade. At Mount Horeb O. C. Nubson is also engaged in the mercantile business and keeps a suitable stock of goods. F. J. Field and Samuel Thompson are the blacksmiths; Paul A. Sletto, shoemaker; Andrew E. Thompson, capenter; while Dr. P. A. Flaten is the physician, with a good practice.

[The following communication, sent us at our special request by J. R. Brigham, of Milwaukee, nephew of the patriarch pioneer, Ebenezer Brigham, will be read by our readers with unusual interest. We regret the brevity of it, but nevertheless feel deeply obligated to him for his hasty sketch of the times and events that surrounded historic "Smoky Mts.," and a just pride in reflecting that the history of Dane county's first pioneer belongs to the whole State, and every stone placed in the structure is tending to the repleteness of the whole fabric.]

Blue Mounds was created a political town by an act passed at the last session of the territorial legislature, approved March 11, 1848, the same year that Wisconsin became a state. The act provides that "so much of range six as is embraced in towns six and seven, in Dane county, is organized in a separate town, by the name of Blue Mounds, and the first town meeting shall be held at the house of Ira Isham." Mr. Isham, who is still living on his fine farm in

the same town, a hale and hearty farmer, lived at that time in what was then and still is known as the "Brigham Place," where he kept public house for the accommodation of travelers, who at that day were numerous. In earlier times, and before the day of railroads in Wisconsin, the Blue Mounds road was one of the chief thoroughfares of the territory. The natural dividing ridge, which extends from near Madison almost due west to the Mississippi river, and separates the waters running northerly to the Wisconsin from those running in the opposite direction, finding their way to the Mississippi south of the Wisconsin boundary, passed close by the house. Along the natural grade of this dividing ridge was established the military road from Fort Winnebago (now Portage) to Fort Crawford (now Prairie du Chien). This was probably the first wagon road maintained within the limits of Wisconsin At the date of the organization of the town, it was the stage route from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river. The four-horse coaches of the United States mail, with nine passengers inside and more on top, passed each way daily. The old stage coach, now almost forgotten, was then in its glory. The driver's box was a throne, and the stage driver was a monarch. Among the best known of the good drivers of that day was Andrew Bishop, "The Elder," as he was respectfully termed by his brethren of the four-in-hand. Since that time, Mr. Bishop has acceptably filled the important offices of sheriff of Dane county and chief of police of the city of Madison, which last position he holds at the present time; but he can scarcely be a more important character, or better or more widely known in either of his later offices than he was in the days when he lustily wound the sounding horn along the echoing sides of the Blue Mounds, and, with a cheery flourish of his long silver-mounted whip, brought his load of nappy passengers up to the door of the house for dinner. There were no second-class seats in the coach of those days, but it was a coveted privilege, and memorable to him who secured it, to ride on the box with "The Elder."

The date of the political organization of the town is by no means the beginning of the history of Blue Mounds. As long ago as when the school maps designated all the country west of Lake Michigan as Northwest Territory, a point about midway between the Mississippi and the lake, was marked "Smoky Mts." North of this the Ouisconsin river (as the spelling was) was indicated, and nothing else of all that makes our present state had name or place. The two peaks so marked Smoky Mts, since called the Blue Mounds, are

conspicuous features in the landscape of western Wisconsin. Rising abruptly from the long rolling prairie at their foot to the height of 1,100 feet above the level of the river, they are distinctly visible more than fifty miles away, and seen from a distance, across the prairie on a summer day, the names Smoky and Blue Mounds well characterize their appearance.

The settlement, which has always borne the name of Blue Mounds, is worthy of special mention in a history of Dane county, because it was, by several years, the earliest settlement in the county, being among the earliest in Wisconsin.

Its first settler was Ebenezer Brigham, who established himself there in the year 1828, having come up from near the mouth of the Missouri river, first to what is now Galena, and from thence to the Blue Mounds, in search of Mineral lands, that is, lands containing lead ore. The discovery of lead in the upper Mississippi, in the region of which Galena is now the heart, created an excitement among the settlers of the Mississippi valley, farther down, and produced a rush for the new mining district quite parallel to the California excitement of 1849. The last was more widely spread, but in intensity and wild excitement among those whom it reached, in those days before railroads and telegraphs, the lead fever in 1827 and 1828 was equal to the gold fever twenty-one years later. Both brought sudden riches to a few, and untold hardships and misery to the most.

Mr. Brigham was successful in making discovery of a valuable body of mineral (as the lead ore was and still is called by the miners) in some diggings on section seven, in the present town of Blue Mounds, which had been, before, somewhat worked by Indians and, perhaps, by wandering white men, but had been abandoned before Mr. Brigham's discovery of the lode which still bears his name. He built his cabin near a fine spring of cold clear water, on the side of the Mound, overlooking the prairie for many miles. The spring still flows, but the original cabins, in which he and his companions lived for several years, long since disappeared, and the larger and more comfortable farm house afterward built, which old settlers will remember pleasantly, as a welcome stopping place of the olden time, and which had been maintained in its original form, until it had become an interesting antiquity in our new state, having endured more than forty years, was burned to the ground in January, 1877.

As Mr. Brigham was not only the first settler of the town, but

was also a man well known in the early history of the territory and state, it is proper to make a brief record of his public service. On the organization of Wisconsin Territory, in 1836, which then included what is now in Iowa and Minnesota, as well as the present state of Wisconsin, Mr. Brigham was elected a member of the Territorial council, from the county of Iowa, which then embraced all south of the Wisconsin river and west of the Four Lakes. The council consisted of thirteen members, of whom seven were from districts within the present limits of Wisconsin, and six were from west of the Mississippi. Mr. Brigham attended the first session of the Legislature, held at Belmont in 1836, and the two sessions held at Burlington in 1837 and 1838. After the division of the territory by the line of the Mississippi river, he was elected a member of the council for the district composed of the counties of Dane, Dodge, Green and Jefferson, and was present at the sessions of 1838, 1839, 1839–40, 1840–1, and 1841–2, which were held at Madison.

During this period, the question of continuing the seat of government at Madison was frequently up and hotly contested. During one session, the members of the council were so nearly equally divided that the absence of one member, voting for Madison, would have deen fatal. Mr. Brigham was, naturally, a champion of Madison. He was the only member of the council who had ever seen the spot, when the act of 1836 was passed, locating the seat of government at a point "between the Third and Fourth Lakes," at the section corners where the capitol now stands. He was also one of the three members of the assembly from Dane county at the first session of the state legislature in 1848. He died in 1862, and his remains lie buried in the Forest Hill Cemetery of Madison.

During the Black Hawk war, in 1832, Blue Mounds was the site of one of the neighborhood forts, for the protection of settlers against the Indians. It was called the Mound Fort, and was the home of about twenty-five people, including women and children, until the war closed. The fort was situated on the high prairie, somewhat more than a mile from the foot of the mound, and commanded a view wholly unobstructed, in every other direction, for many miles. The fort was sometimes threatened, to the serious alarm of the inmates, but was never actually attacked by the Indians, who were frequently seen in the near neighborhood, so that it was never safe to be far outside the stockade. At different times, they succeeded in killing three men of the little garrison, outside of

the protection of the fort. Two of them were butchered, in plain sight of the inmates of the fort, but too far away to be rescued. The two Misses Hall, who had been taken captive, were brought in to the Mound Fort by Winnebagoes and surrendered, on the payment of ransom, and the young women were returned to civilized life. Their story attracted a good deal of attention and interest throughout the country, and the Blue Mounds were brought into considerable notoriety, by the fact that the surrender was made there.

Blue Mounds was the point where Gen. Henry, with his command, effected a junction with Gen. Atkinson and his forces, two days after the battle of the Wisconsin Heights, where the Indians, under Black Hawk, suffered terrible defeat. At the Mounds, fresh supplies of amunition and provisions were procured, and the troops moved on at once. Crossing the Wisconsin at Helena, they continued the pursuit of the flying savages to the Mississippi, where the Indian forces were completely destroyed, in what is known as the battle of Bad Axe. Black Hawk escaped alive, but soon after surrendered himself a prisoner, and the war was ended. The importance of Blue Mounds as a point in these movements, lay in the fact that it afforded the shortest and almost the only feasible route to the Wisconsin river, by way of a remarkable ridge, sometimes called the "Hog's Back," just wide enough for a wagon, leading from the back of the mound nearly to the river, crossing the deep ravines and avoiding the marshes, and affording a natural and practicable road across a country otherwise almost impassable. By taking this route, guided by one well acquainted with the country, the army was enabled to overtake the Indians in their retreat, and to put an end to the war at a blow.

The records of the town show that the following were important citizens in 1848, at the organization of the town government, viz.: Thomas Haney, Thomas Steele, A. S. Needham, John Sample, Edward Dale, Jeremiah Lycan, Granville Neal, William Rowe, David Smith, William Skinner, N. Dryden and James Tennison, of whom very few still survive.

At the present time the town is off the usual routes of travel, and but little known by the public. Its natural features remain, and few, if any, more charming prospects are afforded any where, than that gained from the summit of the high mound in a clear day.

### WEST BLUE MOUNDS—DR. R. W. JONES.

The village of West Blue Mounds is situated at the base of the "West Blue Mound," the highest and most noted of all the Blue Mounds. On the east, south and west, we find rich, beautiful prairies — not an unbroken and level plain, but undulating, and in some places quite broken. The West Blue Mound is 1,187 feet above Lake Michigan, and 490 feet above the village. We are told by reliable parties and good authority that this mound is the highest point of land in this or neighboring states. From the summit of the mound one can see the capital city with the naked eye, and with a good glass, farms and buildings can be studied in every particular a distance of more than forty miles. Here we find a signal station and an observatory, constructed, we believe, by Profs. Davies and Irving, and a corps from the State University, while studying the topography of the country. Near the summit we find several fine sulphur springs, pouring forth large streams of their peculiar mineral water. This mountain is the property of Mr. C. B. Arnold. Persons desiring absolute quiet, pure air and water, cannot find a more suitable spot wherein to pitch their tent. As a resort for fatigued brain-workers, this point is especially adapted. No one breathes this pure air without feeling a sense of exhilaration that is really astonishing.

About a mile southeast of the village is the site of the old Blue Mound fort where the early settlers had

prepared a place of safety for their families in case of trouble with the Indians. The stockade is gone, and only the walls of earth remain to mark the spot where the brave and hardy pioneers in years gone by were wont to assemble for mutual assistance and protection. In the immediate vicinity of the village are some of the most noted lead mines in the state, such as "the Brag Holler," Brigham, and old Dudley diggings. The ore from these mines, I believe, is the richest in the world, being more than 90 per cent. pure lead.

The business interests of the place have never flagged. The Hon. John Adams, of Black Earth, was the first business man of note in the village, and he has done more than any other, perhaps, to establish the commercial interests of the place. The magnet (railroad iron) took him from this point many years ago, and he is so enamored of the steam whistle, that it is only once in a great while that his genial face is seen among his old friends and associates. Mr. Adams has an enviable reputation among the farmers of this section for honesty and fair dealing; in fact, is known as the farmer's friend.

Next among the men who helped greatly toward building up the place, we note Mr. Richard Wade, now of Adamsville. Mr. Wade was proprietor and landlord of the then "Wade House." He also carried a large stock of goods, and made quite a fortune by his strict business manners and hard work. Another thing Mr. Wade did was to rechristen the village. From a weakness the miners had for the

game of "poker," he named the place "Pokerville," and by that name the village is best known hereabouts. Mr. Ira Isham is said to be the originator of the name.

H. Isaacson, Esq., now of Black Earth, was formerly of this burg, and "Ike" has handled many a crisp bill and bright gold piece while a merchant of this town.

At present the business interests of the place are in a very flourishing condition. Mr. William H. Jones, the leading merchant, is a strict and judicious business man. He is doing a very large business, selling anything a man wants, from a cambric needle to a prairie farm. Mr. Jones' business amounts to upwards of twenty-five thousand dollars a year, and by his square dealing, genial manners, and an eye to trade, it is constantly on the increase. Certainly no man has the confidence of his customers more implicitly than Mr. Jones, and from an intimate acquaintance with his private life as well as his business principles, no man is more deserving of such a trust. Aside from his large store, Mr. Jones is proprietor of the up-town hotel. The house has a reputation among traveling men that speaks more forcibly than any pen picture can advertise it. Let the readers of your book stop once at this house, and they will be satisfied that this is one of the best country hotels on the continent.

Next we meet our old friend C. B. Arnold, who has been here a quarter of a century. Mr. Arnold is a strict business man, and owns many hundreds acres of

land, including the famed West Blue Mound. Aside from this fine property, he is conducting a large and excellent hotel, also a well ordered store. Mr. A. has kept a hotel here for more than twenty years, and certainly understands his business. Through all this period the traveling public have eaten the good things from his table, and all agree that the house is hard to beat. I understand the firm name is soon to be changed to C. B. Arnold & Son, Mr. A. taking his son Ralph into full partnership.

Messrs. Smith & Racely are the leading wagon makers and smiths of the place. They are young men of skill, muscle and energy, and are bound to win. They have a fine, commodious building, well stocked with wood and iron, ready at all times to do work in their line neatly and satisfactorily.

Mr. John Helmenstein is the "boss" boot and shoe maker. John is an old settler, and has, aside from an exceptionally large trade in the shop and shoe store, one of the very best farms in Wisconsin, which is manned from his own household, having six hardy sons, who, by the way, are most excellent farmers. John is one of the oldest settlers at present in town.

Mr. James B. Quinn is doing a large business in the harness trade. Being a first-class workman himself, and having only good journeymen in his shop, the public cannot help but be satisfied with his work. Mr. Quinn is also doing a good business in the liquor trade. We recommend Mr. Q as a first-class man.

C. W. Miller, carpenter and joiner, is an old settler,

a first-class mechanic, and the best shot in Iowa county. We might descant on his many virtues, but all to no end, for every one within a hundred miles knows "Old Tony the Scout." Mr. Miller is an old plains man, Indian fighter, scout, and the best natured, biggest hearted, and most contented man living; that is "our opinion."

Dr. R. W. Jones, a Kentuckian bred and born, is the only physician in the village. There are no lawyers nearer than Black Earth, Mazomanie or Dodgeville. The general health of this place and the surrounding country is remarkably good, and free from the results of malaria in less favored localities.

Black Earth, Mineral Point, Mazomanie and Madison, are the railroad points to and from which all our wares come and go. So much for Pokerville.

Among others doing a good trade in general merchandise, is Mattheus Gratz, who is favorably known through a large portion of this and adjoining towns. Carl Morhrhenney and Son are also known as good mechanics in the blacksmith business; while Ole Olsen has a steady increasing custom in harness making and repairing.

# WINDSOR.

BY SHERMAN BROTHERS.

The town of Windsor is on the north tier of towns in the county of Dane, lying N. N. E. from the city of Madison about twelve miles. Bounded north by the town of Leeds, Columbia county; east by the town of Bristol; south by the town of Burke; and west by the town of Vienna.

About three-fourths of the town is high, smooth, rolling prairie; about one-fourth openings and grove timber, with a small portion of marsh lands.

Two creeks take their rise in Windsor, known as Token and Catfish creeks; the most important of which is Token creek, its prominent source being three springs, from which a sufficient amount of water gushes out of the earth at the foot of a small hill to run a mill.

The soil of the town is very rich and productive, easy to till, nearly all of which is under cultivation.

At the time of the Black Hawk war, the munitions of war and soldiers on their way from Madison to Fort Winnebago passed through the town of Windsor, and the amount of travel made such a trail that some traces of it may still be seen.

When Mr. Robert L. Ream, in 1839, made a journey from Madison to Fort Winnebago, he started

on horse back, and took this trail. There were only two houses between the fort and Madison, those of William Lawrence, near Token Creek, and Wallis Rowan, near Poynette, on the military road. Mr. Ream put up at Rowan's, and after being bountifully supplied with hoe cake and bacon by Mrs. Rowan, retired to rest. He was woke up early in the morning by several cocks crowing in close proximity to his bed, and discovered that the rail of his bed was the roost of Mr. Rowan's chickens. When he returned from the fort, he put up at the same place, and slept in the same bed, and says when he awoke, he thought he had a flock of sheep for his bedfellows, but they afterwards proved to be a number of Indians with new blankets, who had noiselessly taken possession of the floor during his slumbers, and the new white blankets were the results of a visit to some trading post.

The first actual settler was Wm. Lawrence. He came from the state of Vermont, and settled in the town in the year 1841, on section 5, on what is well known as Eagle Point, or the Helden farm, now owned by Hon. J. C. Hopkins, of the city of Madison. Mr. Lawrence was one of the patriots from this town who enlisted in the Union Army during the late rebellion. He was taken sick while in the service, came home and died at his residence in Windsor.

Soon after the settlement of Mr. Lawrence, James Morrison, a Scotchman, settled on Section 6, near what is now known as Morrison Station. Mr. Morrison was a man of ability as a farmer; succeeded to

accumulate a good property; settled two of his sons on fine large farms near his residence, and at his death, about one year ago, left his other son in possession of the old homestead.

About cotemporary with Mr. Morrison's settlement was that of Thos. Campbell, another Scotchman, who settled on section 17, near what is now the village of De Forest. Mr. C. has also been successful in tilling the soil. Surrounded by many of the good things of this life, he is still living to enjoy them.

Mr. Pellett soon after built a log house on sec. 36, on the farm once known as the Turner farm, but now as the Spencer farm. The same year Mr. Leland settled on Sec. 30,on what is now owned by S. H. Sabin. Their log houses still stand, but they have had some repairs. Messrs. P. and L. were both from the state of Vermont.

Charles Lawrence came from the state of Vermont in 1838; married a Miss Moore in the city of Madison; built a house and commenced to improve a farm in the year 1842, at Token Creek, in the town of Windsor. Mr. Lawrence has three children — Henry, James and Ellis. Henry was the first male child born in Windsor. He married Miss Bertha Miller in Windsor, and they are now living in the city of Madison. Henry Lawrence is a mechanic of superior skill as a painter.

In the same year of Mr. Lawrence's settlement (1842), Randall Abner, a well educated Indian improved a piece of land on sec. 28, known for many

years as the "Old Abner 40;" now owned by Jefferson A. Pinney. Mr. Abner was a sweet singer, took an active part in politics, and was a good man in many respects. He emigrated to California some twenty years ago, joined the United States Regular Army as a scout, and was killed, in the discharge of such duty, by an Indian.

In the year 1843, Mr. Nathan Spalding left his native state (Vermont), and, after a long journey, a part of the way traveling with an ox team, he halted in the town of Windsor, himself, wife and three children much worn out by fatigue. He built a house on section 34, and improved a fine piece of land. Mr. S. was a good man. He held several offices in town during life. He was commissioned by President Polk as postmaster, which office he held for twenty-five years. He died in December, 1874.

About cotemporary with the settlement of Mr. Spalding was that of Mr. Toffelmire. He built a house on the town line at Token Creek; made a dam across the creek, and just below it put up a saw mill in the town of Burke.

In 1844–5, N. N. Pike and James West, Sr., squatted on section 5; Thomas Kewin, Thomas Cummings and John Kershaw, on section 6; James West, Jr., and Major Kinnison on section 8; Samuel Stephenson was the first settler on section 17. Kershaw and Stephenson left to seek their fortunes in California during the gold excitement of 1849. Kershaw returned, and is now a prosperous farmer in the adjoin-

ing town of Vienna. All of these early settlers have removed, most of them in 1847, when a number of Norwegian families located in the northwest part of the town and purchased the former claims. Among these were Ingebrecht Larson, Peter Linde, Stephen Holum and Siur and Johannes Grinde. This year, J. W. Helden, of the firm of Helden & Weston, proprietors of the "Fay" saw mill, in Wood county, Wisconsin, sold his interest in the mill, and other extensive lumbering interests, bought the place first owned by Wm. Lawrence, added large tracts of land to the original purchase, and introduced valuable stock, having for many years conducted a stock farm. The place was then known as "Eagle Point." He kept hotel. The building, a log structure, one of the earliest landmarks, is still standing, suggesting happy recollections to travelers and early settlers.

From 1845 to 1846, there was a rush of immigration into the town from various parts of the world, viz.: Daniel W. Stone, from Maine; Elias Combs, Wm. Whitney, Samuel Burrington, Sylvester Raymond, James Dorman, Wm. Bartholomew, Morris Goodrich, and many more, from the state of Ohio; Christian O. Hatleberg, from Norway, the first Scandinavian settler; and Ferdinand Rekon, the first German settler, O. M. Cross, Josiah E. Carpenter, Rev. Elisha R. Swain (a Baptist clergyman), Willard Blanchar, James Farwell, Orrin Chamberlain, Leonard and Justin Fish, Isaac Porter, Warren Baird, Nathan Rowley, S. H. Sabin, Justin C. Pinney, James

Patterson, Dr. Robert K. Bell, Nathan Dodge, and others from different parts.

Samuel Stevenson was the first Englishman. He settled this same year on section 17, and commenced to improve the farm known as the "Durkee Farm," and subsequently as the "De Forest Farm," which at one time was the largest farm in Windsor.

In the fall of 1846, the town was organized with the towns of Burke, Westport and Vienna, and as many of the early settlers were from Vermont, it was their intention to name the town "Allen," in honor of Ethan Allen, the eccentric representative of the Green Mountain State, but on presentation of the name to the legislature it was found that there was already a town by the name of "Allen" in the state, and consequently another name must be adopted for the proposed new town. When the citizens had learned this fact, the question of a name for the town was upon every body's tongue. While this was being discussed at a social gathering of a few neighbors, it occurred to Mrs. J. E. Carpenter and Mrs. Wm. Whitney, who were present, that the town should be called "Windsor," in commemoration of Windsor, Vt., the native town of Mrs. Whitney. *Windsor*, said these good matrons, is a pretty name, and old Windsor, in the Green Mountain State is worthy of a namesake in the Badger State, and why not call the new town *Windsor?* "*Windsor.*" "WINDSOR." resounded from all parts of the room, and "*Windsor*" was soon echoed from the surrounding neighborhood. Without

further formality the name "Windsor" was sent up to the legislature and became the established name of the new town. Thus it was that these two worthy ladies gave the town a *name*. Mrs. Carpenter still lives within its limits, enjoying a competency of the good things of this life, the result of honest industry, but Mrs. Whitney, some years ago, emigrated to the state of Iowa.

The first election was held in the spring following, at the house of Horace Lawrence, then known as the *Prairie House*, in the township of Burke, and elected Charles M. Nichols *chairman of the board of supervisors*, who lived on section 36, in the township of Burke; Eleazer Grover and Mr. Pettit were his associates; Ira Mead, *town clerk;* Selden Combs, *treasurer;* and Elias Combs, *justice of the peace.*

The first wedding party in Windsor was at the log house of Wm. Whitney, about one mile north of Token Creek. Josiah E. Carpenter, Esq., and Miss Caroline M. Reynolds were joined in wedlock by Rev. E. R. Swain. A large company were there on the occasion. Joy, glee, mirth and happiness were unbounded. Venison, roast pig, and other good things were placed on the table, and eaten with a relish not often seen in these latter days. The Elder remarked to the young married couple that "they must not be surprised if they did not always have so good a meal;" but we are happy to say that whenever we have dined at Mr. C.'s house, which frequently we have done, we invariably have found *a well spread table.*

The first female child born in Windsor was at the same log house, the daughter of the before mentioned Rev. E. R. Swain. The child was named Delia. Although a delicate child, she grew up to be a strong girl; received a fine education at the seminary at Beaver Dam, Wis., married a Mr. Ringland, and they are now living in Boone, Boone county, state of Iowa. The old log house is still standing.

Our space will not allow us to record but little of the characteristics of these early settlers, and perhaps we shall weary the readers of this volume with our lengthy history. We must beg indulgence simply to say this much, that all of them had the true spirit of pioneers. They enjoyed frontier life. It was "Hale fellows well met," in those days. Neighbor received neighbor at his cabin with cordiality, and travelers were made welcome to their hospitality. The small log cabin with already two or three families in it, would be found large enough for another family when some others came to make a home among them. There was no ambition then to see who could wear the finest clothes, drive the fastest horse, ride in the finest carriage, or live in the highest style; but they *were* ambitious to see who could break the largest number of acres of the prairie and opening lands. There was a competition to see who could grow the most wheat and other products of the soil. They were a moral people. Quarrels, broils and disturbances seldom occurred, and law suits were exceedingly rare. They were not unmindful in matters of religion. With

the Rev. E. R. Swain for their minister, preacher and pastor, they were well instructed out of the word of God. They listened, heard and obeyed. Few men who preach the gospel of Christ will ever compare favorably with E. R. Swain. It is written, "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you." It has often been said, the Elder is free from the *woe*, one speaks evil and one alone; his words can do the Elder no harm. Elder Swain sold his farm in town, and removed to Iowa about ten years ago, where he still lives with one of his sons.

After the organization of the town, immigration rapidly increased. English, Germans, Norwegians, and people from different states settled on the fine prairie lands of the town, built better houses than the first settlers had done, and large portions of the rich, black sod were annually cut and turned over by the plow. The prairie was soon dotted all over with comfortable homes, and nearly every acre was brought under cultivation.

In this class of settlers, we beg leave to mention the the names of Thomas Bewick, William G. Bartlett, George Cole, *English;* William Walk, William Wernick, John Rinder and his sons John C., Frederick, and Christian, and also his son-in-law Frederick Pevion; Ernst Miller, Jas. Meixner and his sons Jas. I., John, Antone, and Frank; Ferdinand Gomalke, Florian Schambra, Henry A. Miller, Henry Brockmiller and others, *Germans;* John Olsen, Shure Shureson, John Knudtson, and others, *Norwegians;* John Bur-

rington and his sons Jonathan, Rial, Daniel, Calvin and Charles; Franklin and Martin Hilliard, Austin Freeman, Allison and Tertius Turner, James Clements and E. P. Sherman, from different states.

About the year 1853, Hon. Charles Durkee left his comfortable home in Kenosha, Wis., and purchased Mr. Stevenson's property, already well improved, and soon after 600 acres of section 16 (a school section); put the whole of section 16 under the plow in one year, purchased a large flock of sheep and other stock, and commenced farming on a big scale. Seven hundred sheep were shorn in one year; 4,000 bushels of buckwheat grown in another year, and as high as 8,000 bushels of spring wheat sent to market, one of the products of this farm for a single year. Mr. Durkee soon made sale of his farm at $25 per acre, to Mr. Isaac N. DeForest; went to Utah, was made governor of the territory, and died on his way to visit his old home in Kenosha, about two years ago.

The Madison and Portage Railroad, connecting the city of Madison with Portage City, is the only line of railroad passing through the town of Windsor. Previous to the location of this road, two other lines of railroad had been surveyed, passing from corner to corner through the town, and crossing each other on section 26, E. P. Sherman's land; but neither of these two lines were ever built.

The Madison & Portage Railroad is about 40 miles in length, and would prove an important link in any railroad line leading from north to south through the

central part of the state. In its incipient stages, this road had a hard struggle for existence, lying almost dormant for several years after being surveyed, and the people of Windsor began to despair of ever having a railroad pass through their town. But about the year 1869, a new impetus was given to the enterprise through the indomitable courage and perseverance of James Campbell, president of the company, assisted by Robert Sanderson as secretary, and an efficient board of directors. Through their influence the towns along the line of the road, and at its termini, were induced to purchase stock of the company, either paying cash or giving bonds for the same; and, with the aid thus afforded, the road was completed in the year 1870. In the matter of furnishing aid for this enterprise, the town of Windsor generously furnished six thousand dollars in cash, and now holds the company's stock certificates for that amount.

In the matter of schools and school houses, Windsor compares favorably with other towns in Dane county. The rude log school houses of the early settlers have given place to neat and convenient edifices; and many of the modern improvements in school house furniture have been adopted. A striking contrast between the school houses of the early settlers and those of the present day is seen in District No. 1 near Token Creek village, where the first log school house in town was built. A large and well proportioned white edifice, now crowns the summit of a gentle eminence, within half a mile of the site of the

old log house. Other districts in town show equally striking contrasts. But the log school houses had their day of usefulness, and will be held in grateful remembrance by many intelligent men and women of the present day, who received the first rudiments of education at these primitive edifices.

Three villages, Windsor, De Forest and Morrison, are located on the line of the Madison and Portage Railroad, within the limits of the town of Windsor. Each village is favored with a railroad station; each has an express office, and each is a market for grain and other farm products. And although these villages are only about two miles apart, and are within ten miles of other competing markets, still quite an amount of business is done at each; about 100,000 bushels of wheat, 15,000 bushels of barley, and 15,000 bushels of oats on the average, are annually shipped from these three stations, besides considerable quantities of corn, potatoes, wool, hides, poultry, butter, eggs, live stock, etc. From the village of Windsor alone, ten to fifteen thousand dollars worth of live hogs are annually shipped. Each of the three stations has its lumber yard, and large quantities of lumber are annually sold at each.

Among the enterprising business men of Windsor village, are Sherman Bros., proprietors of the Windsor cheese factory, and dealers in grain, lumber, flour, feed, salt, live stock, etc., being the successors of E. P. Sherman; Greenman Bros. are the leading merchants, and have a large trade in their line of business. H.

B. Lake is the only druggist; R. F. Sherman runs a tin and hardware shop. He is particularly noted for his skill as a cheese-maker, and has charge of the Windsor cheese factory. C. B. Wilsey runs a successful blacksmith shop, and C. E. Carlton does a good business as carriage maker.

De Forest. — At De Forest is a substantial and capacious grain elevator, owned and operated by H. S. Grinde, Esq. Over 70,000 bushels of wheat, besides other grain, have been shipped through this elevator in one year. Dennis Crawley owns a warehouse, and buys grain, etc., and keeps a stock of lumber. Moldstad, Dahl & Durkee, general merchants. K. Knudson's machine shops are located at this place. The proprietor, a skilled and practical mechanic, does an extensive business.

At Morrison Station, there is a grain warehouse and general store, conducted by Mr. Watkins.

### WINDSOR IN THE WAR — BY HERBERT A. LEWIS.

We have been kindly furnished the following war history, together with news of the churches, by Mr. Herbert A. Lewis, whose long and intimate acquaintance with the town is a sufficient guaranty for the accuracy of its interesting details:

During the war of the rebellion, the town did its full share. According to the records, the town was required to furnish seventy-three soldiers, as its part of the great armies summoned to the defense of the Union. It furnished eighty-six. No regular organization was raised in the town, as the volunteers were scattered through many different regiments. The town was largely represented in

the first cavalry, the thirty-third, thirty-sixth, fortieth, and other Wisconsin regiments.

Among those who died in the service were, William Lawrence, in the first cavalry; John T. Vincent, of the Berdan Sharpshooters; Chester Porter, Abram Bartholomew, and Henry Goodrich, of the thirty-third regiment; Adam Smith, of this regiment, was killed at the battle of Tupelo, in Mississippi in the summer of 1864. Marshal Combs enlisted in the second Iowa regiment at the breaking out of the war, and at the bloody battle of Fort Donaldson was wounded, and came home to die. His cousin, Melvin Combs, also died in the service. Col. Clement E. Warner, at present an influential resident of the town, raised a company for the thirty-sixth regiment. Being the first captain mustered in, he became the ranking captain. The thirty-sixth arrived at the front in Virginia about the first of May, 1864, and engaged at once in the bloody battles of that year in Virginia. In less than three weeks after its arrival, its field officers had all been killed or wounded, and Capt. Warner found himself in command of the regiment. He was commissioned major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel, before the close of the war. While holding the office of lieutenant colonel, and while in command of his regiment at the battle of Deep Bottom, on the 14th of August, 1864, he lost his left arm, by a minnie ball. As soon as he had recovered from the amputation, he returned to his regiment and remained in command until the close of the war. At the time of the surrender of Gen. Lee to Gen. Grant, the thirty-sixth was stationed just in front of the place where these distinguished officers arranged the terms, and it was to Col. Warner that Gen. Mead announced the fact that Lee had surrendered. Col. Warner has since represented the eastern district of Dane county in the state senate. He is still a substantial farmer in the town.

Samuel S. Brink was a member of the thirty-sixth, and lost a foot in one of the early battles in which the regiment was engaged.

Anson D. Goodrich enlisted in the thirty-third regiment as a private, but was appointed orderly sergeant, and was afterwards commissioned first lieutenant of his company. S. H. Sabin was first lieutenant of company D. of the fortieth regiment. This was one of the hundred days regiments, and the town had a large representation in its ranks.

Otis Remick, at one time a teacher in the Farwell school house, near where the village of Windsor now stands, enlisted in the first

regiment of three months' men, and afterwards in the eleventh regiment, in which he was an orderly sergeant, then first lieutenant, then captain, and was finally commissioned as major. After the war, Major Remick took up his residence in New Orleans, where he still resides.

E. G. Miller, who at one time taught the school in the Token Creek district, also enlisted in the first regiment of three months' men, and was afterwards a captain in the twentieth regiment. He has since been a member of the Iowa State Senate. Moulton De Forest was a captain in the eighteenth regiment. Newton De Forest was first lieutenant and afterwards major in the second cavalry. Both these officers were sons of I. N. De Forest, from whom the village of De Forest takes its name.

From this it will be seen that the town was not behind its neighbors in doing its share in that great struggle which achieved the grand result of proclaiming liberty in all the land.

The religious history of the town is interesting. The first preaching was by Rev. Philip Eveleth, a Congregational minister, who preached in the old log school house at the foot of the north side of Token Creek hill.

## CHURCHES.

The first church organized was the Baptist church, of which Rev. E. R. Swain, heretofore referred to, was the pastor. This church was organized in 1846, and was for a long time the leading church in the town. Elder Swain was indefatigable in his labors to build it up. In 1849, it was blessed with a revival which added largely to its numbers. Circumstances being such, its pastor thought it best to seek another home, the church having declined in numbers until it has but a few left in its organization.

The Methodists, with their unconquerable will and their unquenchable zeal, have also made the town one of their preaching places, and at one time had an organization there. The different preachers of that denomination, who will be well remembered, were Father Fox, Rev. Geo. Delamatyr, Rev. Mr. Bunce, Rev. Mr. Bolton, Rev. Mr. Cobbin, and others. Father Fox was an old gentleman with many eccentricities, and many an anecdote of his keen witted retorts are remembered.

The Congregational church was organized in April, 1851, at the Farwell school house, by Rev. C. W. Matthews, who for a long time preached to them on alternate sabbaths, supplying also the church of

the same denomination at Sun Prairie. At its organization it had but six members. Rev. Philip Eveleth, who had preached the first sermon in the town, became a member of this church at that time. Its members were so few that in its infancy it was seriously contemplated that it be disbanded; but, in 1853, it was encouraged by the addition of a few new members, among whom were Deacon Warner and his wife, who have since been closely identified with it, and took courage and struggled on. In August, 1853, it became connected with the Madison District Convention, and Newton Lewis was its first delegate. In 1855, this church was farther strengthened by the arrival of Hon. W. H. Chandler, who has since been one of the prominent men of the state. Mr. Chandler and his wife were for years among the most reliable working members of the church.

In the spring of 1858, a large revival took place in the town, in which all the churches united. Rev. Almon Whitman, pastor of the Baptist Church at Sun Prairie, was the preacher on this occasion. The spirit of unity at this time was so great that an attempt was made to abandon all the church organizations, and to form a union church. This was only partially successful, as some, from conscientious reasons, were unwilling to abandon the churches they had loved so long. A union church was formed, however, in which every member of the Congregational Church joined, and many of the other denominations. This continued till 1864, when, by consent of all its members, it was again united to the Madison District Convention of Congregational Churches. In 1858, it enjoyed the ministration of Rev. J. F. Smith, then just starting in his profession, who is now a missionary in Turkey in Asia. Rev. George Delamatyr, a Methodist, and Rev. O. O. Stearns, a Baptist, for some years preached to the church. The first steps to erect a church were taken in the fall of 1860, and Deacon Warner spent the election day of 1860 in asking subscriptions for the new enterprise of the citizens as they came together to exercise their rights as voters. The church was erected during the year 1861, and was dedicated in March, 1862, Rev. Mr. Donaldson, then acting pastor, preaching the sermon. The cost of the edifice was $1,500, and as church debts were not fashionable then, it was all paid for. Mr. Donaldson lived at Beaver Dam, and drove that long distance in order to meet his appointments. Rev. Mr. Sedgwick preached to the church for a time, in 1864. Rev. C. M. Morehouse preached in 1865 and 1866.

In the winter of 1866, a large and powerful revival took place,

under the preaching of Rev. P. C. Pettibone, of Beloit. In 1866 Rev. Richard Hassell became the pastor of the church, and continued so for about three years. Mr. Hassell is now a resident of Grinnell, Iowa. He was succeeded by Rev. S. B. Demarest, who remained about four years.

After a short time in which Rev. Mr. Williamson preached, the church called the present pastor, Rev. W. A. Lyman. Soon after his coming there was a revival, succeeded by large accessions to the church. There has recently been erected, at a spot about half-way between the church and the village of Windsor, a neat parsonage for the use of the pastor.

In the German settlement, in the northern part of the town a church was erected and dedicated in the year 1876, by the German Methodists. These good people have always been forward in good works in the town. Mr. Frederick Pivian, a prominent member of this society, often officiates as pastor.

There is also in this part of the town a large society of Primitive Lutherans, that have been organized as a church for about eight years, Rev. O. Hill, recently from Illinois, is the present pastor.

In 1876 a Moravian church (German) was organized by Rev. William Slingle, and the site for a church edifice selected.

At DeForest there is a large society of Norwegian Lutherans, who worship at Norway Grove church, in the town of Vienna. There is a Norwegian school connected with the church, in charge of T. Thomson.

## Among some of the business men not already mentioned in the preceding pages are the following:

WINDSOR—E. P. Sherman, notary public and agent for railroad and express companies; T. O'Deir and J. W. Vincent, carpenters; Elisha Lake, boot and shoemaker. Robt. Burrington, has recently purchased the store occupied by H. B. Lake, and is adding considerable to its size and convenience. Mr. Lake is also engaged in building a new store. J. W. Vincent has charge of the Windsor Hotel, where guests will meet with courteous treatment and good fare at reasonable rates.

DEFOREST—A. L. Dahl, artist; A. Nelson, sewing machine agent and bookseller; K. Nelson and Bros., carpenters; C. Jahland and Bros., painters.

## BERRY.

BY OTTO KERL, Esq., AND WM. S. CROWTHER, Esq.

The town of Berry is situated in the western part of Dane county, and lies south of the town of Roxbury, west of the town of Springfield, north of the town of Cross Plains, and east of the town of Black Earth. The general character of the town is hilly, although there are several rich valleys, the largest being Halfway Prairie, which is sometimes called the English settlement, and that portion of Black Earth valley, which crosses the southwest corner of the town. The bluffs are timbered with several kinds of oak, cherry and poplar, the last being a recent growth, and admirably adapted for fencing. The poplars grow in groves, long and straight, and are cut when about six inches in thickness, sawed into fencing, and considered by many as superior to pine fencing. They seem to be especially provided by Providence for such purposes, as the large oaks, formerly used in fencing, are all gone. The town is abundantly supplied with water, there being a number of springs and creeks, with several mill sites, one of which, on the Black Earth creek, is being improved for a flouring mill. The climate is very healthy, there being no stagnant water or marshes.

The town was first settled in 1843, by James Mills, Captain Amos Heald, Albert Skinner, Joseph Rogerson and ——— Hood, on Black Earth valley, and a year or two later by Mr. Barnes and Mr. Hyer, on Halfway Prairie.

In 1845, a large number of English came out under a colonization society, which was organized in the city of Manchester, England, in 1842, called the "British Temperance Emigration Society." They located several of their claims in this town, and the following persons came out in 1845: John Whiteman, John Mead, James and William Bowman, Geo. Draper, Francis Wilson, John Ford, John Saville and James Crowther. This last gentleman relinquished his claim, giving it away, saying, "it was dear at a gift," and bought Albert Skinner's farm, on section 31, which had the first frame house in the town. His claim was situated on what was called "long breaking," in the town of Mazomanie, a miserable sandy prairie that would not grow white beans. This so enraged the officers of the society that they sent word to England that Mr. Crowther had left a nice farm and gone and settled in a swamp (which, by-the-way, was every foot dry and good land). In after years, when they would come up to see him, he would say, "let us go out and see my swamp."

In 1847, several more English settled there, among which were Thomas, Samuel and Edward Barber, Thomas Haynes and George Bates.

Many amusing incidents are remembered of these early settlers; most of the English coming from manufacturing towns in the old country, were, to use a phrase, somewhat "green" respecting farms and farming, which the following incident will illustrate: Two parties (who afterwards became prominent and thrifty farmers) came to Joseph Rogerson, another English settler, who came out in 1843 and settled on section 32, to buy his claim. After partaking of a frugal meal, which consisted of pork and corn bread, the latter made into the remembered "johnny cake," they went out to see the farm, examine the soil, etc.; after they got out to the field, one of them commenced to jump and spring on the ground, saying to Mr. Rogerson "is this land sound?" The latter, in a (feigned) terrified air said, "My G—d, friend, do not do that or you will go down about twenty feet." It is also related of another who, before he was "naturalized," commenced planting his corn, and had about an acre planted before he found out his mistake; he had planted an ear in each hill.

In 1847, the Germans first commenced to settle, the first comers being Otto Kerl and Mr. Anhalt. They rapidly settled in, till the whole town was taken up. But very few of the old English settlers are now alive to tell the tale of the trials and hardships of the early settlement of the town; most of them have gone to "that bourne from whence no traveler returns." The town now is almost entirely Germans, who, by-the-way, make our very best citizens.

In 1849–50 a number of Germans settled here, and the town has continued to fill up from time to time until it is now almost all cleared and broken up for cultivation.

The town was organized in 1850, and the first town meeting held on the 2d day of April, 1850. Twenty-four votes were cast, and sixty dollars raised for town purposes. The names of the voters were Wm. Sesston, Otto Kerl, John W. Ford, Thomas Barber, George Stevens, Henry Carden, John Wightman, John Savelle, George Draper, Edward Barber, Francis Wilson, Thomas Hawley, John H. Roberts, Wm. Hawley, John Gray, Thomas Haynes, Joseph Harrison, Edmund Ellis, Joseph Bowman, Samuel Hawley, William Bowman, John Mead, Henry Paddelford, Abijah Davis. And the following officers were elected: *Supervisors* — Joseph Bowman, chairman; Thomas Haynes and John Wightman. *Town Clerk* —Samuel Hawley. *Treasurer* — Thomas Barber. *Justices of the Peace* — Thomas Haynes and Joseph Harrison. *Superintendent of School* — Edward Barber. *Constables* — Henry Carden and Aug. Barnes. *Assessor* — George Draper.

In those early times there were plenty of deer, and often as many as twenty-four head at a time were seen feeding upon the fields of winter wheat sown by the early settlers. The town was a favorite resort with the Indians, because of the quantity of game frequenting this section of country, and their camp was about one-half mile from my house. In the fall

of 1848, about sixty-five of them and their families remained near my land, on section 27, for about six weeks, killing deer. When they prepared to depart, they loaded each of their ponies with a fresh killed deer, which they purposed carrying to Milwaukee to sell. They made frequent visits to my house for flour and salt, and the most friendly relationship existed between them and my family, we passing in and out of their camp as often as opportunity permitted us. On one occasion, while I was making hay near their camp, three squaws came with long sticks or canes and helped turn the hay. When done, they signified by signs that they had done so because I had given them flour and salt.

The deer continued plentiful for a number of years, but the constant settling up of the town, and the killing of them, made their appearance very scarce, so that the last deer known to have been killed in the town was by myself in 1856.

A frequent and very troublesome annoyance to the settlers was the great number of wolves that made the night hideous with howling, and would even attack the stock if suitable care was not taken to keep the cattle in places of safety. In the winter it was sometimes unsafe, even in the day time, to be unarmed, as they followed teams of horses or oxen, watching every opportunity to attack them. One winter in 1847, between Christmas and New Year, Conrad Scheele, a young man living with me, started out with the ox team and sleigh to go to Clark's Corners, in Spring-

INDIAN CAMP.

From Mitchell's New School Geography.

field, to get a few bushels of potatoes from Joseph Knippschild, and after being gone about an hour, came back to arm himself, because the wolves were so numerous and savage he could not make any progress on the road.

On Table Bluff, the highest bluff in the town, section 29, there are a number of Indian mounds that are in the form of small hills, others long or oblong, while some of them take the shape of animals, such as bears, snakes, etc. On section 27, where my land is, there are several long ones, also having the form of animals.

There is evidence on sections 21 and 29 that the aborigines were engaged in mining or digging for some valuable minerals or flints, before the white settlers came to this town. Large excavations are seen showing where the soil has been thrown out for some purpose that we are not made aware of in our time. Perhaps to obtain the copper masses, or boulders from which they made their tools.

In those days the postal arrangements in the town were not within the requirements of our modern conveniences, and perhaps could not be better told than to relate an incident that came under my own observation. The nearest post-office was Madison, and letters for the town of Berry had to come over the Sauk road, by way of Mr. Dunlap's, then sometime afterwards it would be carried from there to Cross Plains, and then to Mr. Thomas, who was postmaster, on section 10. A friend and myself calling for letters at his house were informed by Mrs.

Thomas that her husband was in the meadow haying, where we went and found him mowing with a sickle one foot long After the compliments of the day were passed, we asked if there were any letters for us. He replied that he would see, and sitting down on his haunches he very carefully with both hands took off his hat (which was a genuine stovepipe of no very recent style), tumbled out a number of letters on the ground, looked them over for us, and then replaced the hat and its contents on his head. We were Germans, but we had never seen a portable post-office before, nor had any conceptions of the weighty correspondence of many heads being carried in one, and then covered with a stovepipe hat; but that was the post-office of Cross Plains.

The nearest mills that we had were Hickocks', in Iowa county, Sugar River Mill, and the Lodi Mill; and the inconvenience of the early settlers in getting their wheat gristed was sometimes scarcely possible in our times to imagine. On one occasion, I carried a grist to Hickocks' Mill and found the mill stopped and undergoing repair; I then started for the mill at Sugar River, but found that also broken down and repairing, which ultimately compelled me to go to Janesville, before I could get my wheat gristed; occupying about six days going and returning. Mr. John Cropper started a mill at Halfway Prairie creek in 1863, but afterwards moved it to Mazomanie.

In 1852, I started a brewery, and continued in the business until 1861. In 1862, George Esser also started a brewery, and has built up a large business.

In the southeast part of the town there is a large Catholic church, built of stone, and with a fine spire that can be seen for miles around. The present pastor is the Rev. John Friede, a well educated and sociable gentleman. There is also a Catholic school connected with the church. In the center of the town there is a German Lutheran church, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Mr. Schenk, of Middleton. The town has six school districts.

The first store in town was kept by Hartwig Meyer, at Halfway Prairie, and for several years Mr. Christian Henrichs also kept a store at the above place. There is no store at present.

The town is well supplied with stone for building purposes; and Mr. Peter Rouls has a lime kiln, and supplies the neighborhood with burned lime.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad runs through the southwestern part of the town. In Halfway Prairie there is a little village called Meyer's Corners, where are two saloons, one kept by Aug. Rieward, and the other by Herman Schneyer; two blacksmith's shops, one by August Hagemann, and the other by John Hagemann; one wagon shop, kept by Jacob Back; one shoe shop, kept by Carl Schuman; and one tailor, Chris. Luetzow.

On sections two and eleven there is a lake known as Indian Lake, that has no apparent outlet. It was much frequented by the Indians for fishing and hunting, but of late years, they seldom visit it, although many of the citizens still continue to hunt here. From having dried up, it is not as large as formerly.

## COTTAGE GROVE.

BY JAS. BELL, ESQ.

The town of Cottage Grove is situated eight miles east of the city of Madison, in Dane county. It is designated on the government surveys as town seven, north, range eleven, east. The general face of the country is somewhat rolling; the quality of the soil is good and productive; partially prairie and some oak openings, with considerable marsh or meadow land, yielding excellent hay and pasturage; it is under a high state of cultivation. Fine farm houses and barns meet the traveler at almost every turn of the road, indicating thrift and social independence. The first purchase of land from the goverment in the township was in 1838, by Phillip Kerney, on sections eight and ten. In 1840, Wm. C. Wells, Amos Harris and Horatio Catlin entered their lands in sections seven, eight and nine.

The first town meeting was held at the house of Amos Beecher, April 6, 1847, when, on motion of Rev. J. G. Kanouse, Horatio Catlin was chosen chairman, S. H. Adsit and Orsamus McCray, judges of election, and Rufus Howard clerk. The towns of Deerfield and Cottage Grove were then together for political purposes, and at that meeting there were seventy-one votes cast, and the following town officers were de-

clared duly elected: *Supervisors* — Henry L. Bush, chairman, A. E. Adsit, J. W. Butts. *Clerk* — Frederick A. Mitchell. *Assessors* — John Sunderman, Lucius Loss and M. W. Adsit. *Justices of the Peace* — Edmund P. Butts, J. H. Clyde, Charles Drakeley. *Commissioners of Highways* — Molton J. Hammond, Samuel Halawork, E. Sampson. *School Commissioners* — E. D. Kanouse, John Barker, Eli Sperry. *Collector* — Isaac Beecher. *Constables* — Isaac Beecher, E. A. Sperry, George S. Butler. *Sealer of Weights and Measures* — John Deline. *Fence Viewers* — Amos Harris, Allen Kanouse, Orsamus McCray. These men constituted the first town officers.

On the 20th day of April, 1849, the towns of Cottage Grove and Deerfield, by mutual agreement, separated their political connection by the action of their supervisors, who on the part of Cottage Grove were, Charles Drakeley and Lewis Waldruff; on the part of Deerfield, Allen Adsit and Emery Sampson. H. M. Warner was town clerk.

Cottage Grove received its name from a burr oak grove, in the midst of which a public house was built, and where the post office was established in 1838, with Wm. C. Wells as post master. There are now two post offices in the town, the one at Cottage Grove, on the road leading from Madison to Watertown, and the other at Door Creek, on the west end of Liberty Prairie, eleven miles from the city of Madison, southeast, on the road from Madison to Milwaukee, by way of Cambridge and Fort Atkinson. Liberty Prairie cov-

ers about five sections in the south half of the town, and called so by a number of citizens who assembled on the highest eminence on the prairie to celebrate the Fourth of July, and, from the exuberance of their spirits, together, it is said, with something from a little brown jug, that on looking around on the beautiful prairie, they became so enchanted with the sight, they involuntarily cried out "Liberty Prairie." Thus one of the richest and most beautiful prairies in the state received its christening. There are three organized churches in the town, each having a fine house of worship, the Presbyterian, Methodist and German Lutherans. The Presbyterian church was organized by the Rev. John G. Kanouse, in 1845, at the house of Horatio Catlin, his wife being an active member of the church, and his house the only "meeting house" in the town. Mr. Kanouse was minister for nearly twenty-five years, until his death on the 30th day of May, 1870. Since his death the pulpit has been filled by several eminent divines, such as Wm. Hendrickson, Lemuel Leonard, O. P. Thompson and others. The Methodist church, in Cottage Grove village, was organized at the house of Amos Beecher, in 1846, by Rev. Matthew Fox and Rev. Mr. Montgomery with Laura Robinson, Samuel G. Curtis and Thomas Atkins as "charter members." The Methodist church on Liberty Prairie was organized shortly after by Samuel Dodge and L. D. Kelly. The former has long since gone to his reward, the latter is still in active life and engaged on his farm. The German Lutherans

organized since the other two; have a large and intelligent congregation, and a fine house of worship.

The Evangelical Association is strongly represented in the town, though their church is situated just across the line, in Blooming Grove. They purpose at some early day building a new church in the town, where three-fourths of the membership reside. The church was first organized in 1853, in the house of C. F. Uphoff, on section 19, and where services were held for a number of years, with Rev. Henry Roggats as pastor. They are now in a very prosperous condition.

Schools are well attended and well provided for; the census of 1875, shows a population of 1,430 inhabitants, the foreign element being largely represented. The village of Cottage Grove is located on section seven; it consists of the post office, one store of general merchandise, two blacksmith shops, one harness shop, one wagon maker, two churches, a school house and quite a cluster of dwelling houses.

In 1841, General Dodge passed through the village and put up at the Beecher tavern. His military career was well known among the early settlers, and with none more so than Mr. and Mrs. Beecher, who resolved on setting a table worthy of their distinguished guest. But the old general had endured too many privations, and too many homely fares to be disturbed in his usual method of dieting, and so regaled himself with bread, potatoes and pork, leaving all the "*fixings*" untouched. His room had been prepared with extra care, and with an eye to modern

comfort and ease in the way of a good feather bed and pillows. But the general had pillowed his head on the soft side of a hard board many a time, and so asked the good lady, to her utter amazement, to supply him with some comfort by the removal of the feather bed, and the substitution of one of straw, which with him was deemed a luxury.

In old stage times, and before access by rail to Madison had been accomplished, Cottage Grove was one of the relay and resting places for the members of the legislature going to and returning from Madison, and many a pleasant reminiscence is associated with Cottage Grove and the many guests and members who made mine host Beecher's house their abode, but which our space forbids enumerating at present, further than to record one notable circumstance. In 1841, a number of the early settlers agreed to have a social dance at Amos Beecher's tavern, and to show the extent and distance the guests came from, it is stated that H. W. Wales, Mr. Brown, G. H. Walker, were from Milwaukee; Mr. Rogan, from Waterloo; James Frau, from Fort Atkinson; Harris and Charles Lawrence, from Token Creek, and a large number from Madison. A noticeable event of the evening was, that Mrs. Davis, who weighed about 200 pounds, and Mr. G. H. Walker, who weighed about 250 pounds, were the two leading dancers of the evening, displaying more ease and elegance of deportment in the mazes of the ball room than those with less corporeal incumbrance.

Through the energy of our Good Templar Lodge, there is a pleasing feature throughout the township that there is not a place where ardent spirits are sold, nor has there been for a series of years, although this was not always the case. Whisky, as in all new countries, used to be plenty, and highly prized, so much so, that at a town meeting the electors passed a "resolution" that hereafter hogs should be restrained from running at large, but "whisky was to run free," and in those times it did run freely. There is a very fine Grange Hall in the town, No. 97, Patrons of Husbandry.

No streams of water of any great volume are in the town, though Door and Koshkonong creeks run through the town, but not of sufficient size for mill privileges. The township is under a high state of cultivation, and is extremely well located for markets. It is remarkably healthy, having a pure atmosphere, good water and plenty, and no miasmatic swamps to create fevers and agues. There are no natural curiosities, such as caves or large mounds, although there are plenty of ancient indications. On section four, on the land of Albert Gaston, there were some ancient Indian relics.

Politically, Cottage Grove has not been behind the times in contributing her share of public men. She has given the state a governor, state senators and state legislators, and in the late civil war, Cottage Grove sent 105 men to the field; twenty-two of them left their bones on southern battle fields. Any person wishing to locate in this part of Wisconsin can-

not do better. Here we have the best of society, the best of churches and school privileges, a good, healthy climate, good water, good markets, good soil, and just far enough from the capital city for a good, pleasant drive, accessible to three or four depots in thirty minutes drive. To the visitor the drive from Cottage Grove Corners to the city of Madison is truly lovely and enjoyable; for a greater part of the distance there is a full view of the city and the beautiful lakes Waubesa, Monona and Mendota, with their bays and streamlets, and the Catfish river, with its many windings through natural meadows. The road leads for about two miles along the shore of Monona, where a lovely white sand beach affords facilities for good bathing or gathering of shell and pebbles. If a little touch of the hand of art was added to what nature has already done, it would cast Long Branch into the shade. To the seeker after pleasure and health, we would say, God has created few lovelier or more healthful spots than Dane county, and the town of Cottage Grove, for here will be found health and pleasures to overflowing.

## ALBION.

BY PROF. A. R. CORNWALL.

The town of Albion received its name at the suggestion of Isaac Brown, in honor of his former place of residence in the state of New York. Considerable discussion arose as to which name, Albion or Salem, should be given to the town, when some of the English settlers came in and battled for Albion, the name Cæsar gave to their native island. Freeborn Sweet was the first settler. He came from Oneida county, N. Y., in August, 1841. In September of the same year, Bjorn Anderson and Amund Anderson, from Norway, settled on section 2. The same fall, Samuel T. Stewart, of Massachusetts, settled on section 14.

In September, 1842, Jesse Saunders and Duty J. Greene, from Alleghany county, N. Y., settled on section 22, on what has since been called Saunders Creek, where the village of Albion now stands. In June, 1843, Solomon Head, Adin Burdick, James Weed, and Hiram Bently, settled in the same neighborhood. On the 22d of June, 1843, a "Seventh Day Baptist Church" was organized, Rev. O. P. Hull, first pastor. Among the early settlers in the northern part of the town were the Marsdens, Clarks, Halls, Busseys, Slaters, Humphreys, Rev. James Wileman, William Short, John Bullis, and several families of Norths.

These settlers soon organized a Primitive Methodist Church, with Rev. Marsden as first minister. Jesse Saunders opened the first store; Duty J. Greene the first hotel. The first school was opened by voluntary contribution in 1844. The Seventh Day Baptist meeting house was built in 1861, while Rev. T. E. Babcock was pastor. In 1868, the Episcopal Methodists erected a beautiful house of worship two miles from the village of Albion. Since then, in the same neighborhood of the Episcopal church, the Primitive Methodists have built a handsome brick church. This church is near a beautiful lake, and altogether this community has one of the pleasantest locations in southern Wisconsin.

Albion Academy was founded in 1854. This institution has become one of the foremost academies in the northwest. There are three large brick blocks situated in the center of a twelve acre park, which constitutes the centre of the village. The corporate property of the academy is valued at $75,000. The courses of instruction embrace a six years' course in Greek and Latin; four years' course in mathematics; an extensive course in metaphysics; natural science; Normal course — a regular professorship in instrumental music, vocal music, elocution, bookkeeping, penmanship, etc. A faculty of ten teachers constantly employed. Nothing whatever sectarian is connected with the school. There is an annual attendance reaching from 250 to 325. A large number of Scandinavian young people have been educated here.

Albion Academy.

They are as a rule excellent scholars, and of industrious habits. Rev. T. R. Williams D.D., now of Alfred University, was the first principal. He remained in the institution six years, from 1854 to 1860. In 1856, he was joined by A. R. Cornwall, A. M., a graduate of Union College, as associate principal. Prof. Williams retired from the academy in 1860; since that time Prof. Cornwall has been at the head of the institution. The academy has a fine cabinet in natural history. The three literary societies have each a fine hall. The recitation rooms are ample. The institution receives no aid whatever, but relies entirely on a small tuition from each student. A large number of teachers are trained for the public schools, and some of the foremost teachers in the state have been educated here. Hon. C. R. Head, M.D., has been president of the trustees during the twenty-three years of its existence. He has contributed largely and been one of the foremost in building up the school. Jesse Saunders has been a trustee from the beginning, and one of the main supporters.

Albion is one of the pleasantest villages in the northwest; healthy, and surrounded by a rich farming country. No intoxicating liquors were ever sold in the town. Expenses of students are less than any where else in the country. For the education of young men and women, few places offer equal advantages. A summer school of natural history will be connected with the academy, managed by Prof. Thure Kumlien.

Lakes. — On the borders of Koshkonong Prairie is a beautiful lake called Rice Lake, a mile and one-half in length and three-fourths of a mile wide. The town of Albion also borders on Koshkonong lake, which is nine miles in length and three to four miles in width. Rock river flows through the entire length of the lake, making its waters pure, and attracting to the lake immense quantities of migratory birds and of fishes. This is one of the most noted lakes for game in the northwest. Amateur hunters from London, Boston, New York, St. Louis, Chicago and other cities, visit this lake annually. Gen. Sheridan has often tried his hand here, but rumor has it that he has better luck in catching Indians with his "black charger," on the fly, than wild ducks and geese on the wing.

A four thousand dollar steamer will be put on this lake by the first of June. The steamer is nearly completed — is being constructed by Messrs. Burdick & Lanphere, for pleasure excursions on the lake and river. It will have a 65 foot keel, 12 foot beam, double deck and pilot house; first deck, 20x90 feet; second deck, 20x60 feet, and a cabin 12x24 feet. The boat will have a new 18-horse power engine, built especially for steamers, and will be capable of carrying from 250 to 300 persons. It will be as strong and perfectly safe in every respect as regular passenger steamers, and elegantly finished and furnished complete. Koshkonong lake is the paradise of the naturalist. On its bosom are wild ducks innumerable; also geese, cormorants, pelicans, swans, and all the varieties of smaller birds found in the north-

west are on its margin. It is claimed that one hundred tons of fish are taken from its waters in a single season. This lake is known all over the globe, chiefly through Prof. Kumlien, who has furnished specimens in natural history taken from it for a good many universities and museums, in the old world as well as in this country. The specimens in our normal schools are found here and prepared by him.

Business. — E. L. Burdick has a large dry goods store, and keeps a large assortment of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hardware, drugs and medicines. Commercial agents call him one of their most reliable customers. Miller & Gibson have a wagon and blacksmith shop, and do a large amount of work. Jesse Greene has a blacksmith shop, is a genial fellow and does good work. Burdick & Lanphere have a steam mill, and deal in bent lumber; are manufacturers of wagons and sleighs. They also deal largely in picture frames. Collins & Spencer, dealers in pictures and picture frames, are doing a lively business. A. B. Campbell, harness maker, has a fine shop. He also has a shop at Middleton and one at Alden, Minn., and does a thriving business. A. R. Greene, general traveling salesman for the Fox River Manufacturing Co., Dayton, Ill., for the states of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. G. B. Huntington is a well known dealer in improved stock. Albion is one of the best tobacco growing towns in southern Wisconsin. In building up the village, Jesse Saunders has done more, by way of selling lots at reasonable

prices, and erecting buildings, than any other one man. Dr. C. R. Head has been a prominent and successful physician for more than twenty-five years, and is well known throughout the state. The Burdick Brothers, builders, do a large amount of work. Visitors to Albion will find a nice home at the Randall House, and can visit the lake at will.

# PERRY.

BY GABRIEL BJORNSON, Esq.

This town was named in honor of Commodore Perry, and is the southwest township in Dane county, adjoining Iowa county on the west, and Green county on the south. The soil in this town consists mostly of light openings, and partly of choice natural meadows, yielding the best kind of natural grasses for stock. It is abundantly supplied with good, clear water from beautiful sparkling springs, and several beautiful small streams, emptying into the Pecatonica river, having their sources from springs of water in the town. Its surface is what is usually termed undulating or rolling; but the soil (with the exception of a few stony ridges) is mostly of a good quality, and well adapted both for dairy and grain farms.

The first settler was one John Brown, a native of Indiana, who in the spring of 1846 settled on section 27. Soon after, John, Hobart and Anton Keller, three brothers, from Germany, came into the town and settled on sections 3 and 10. The next settlers were Shute Rudy and John Sears, from Kentucky; John Eastman, from Ohio, and S. H. Campbell, from Virginia, who, in the year 1847, settled in the southern part of the town. In the early part of the year 1848, B. F. Denson, a native of North Carolina, set-

tled on section 34. In the summer of the same year several Norwegian families moved in, of whom Lars Halvorson and T. Thompson settled on section 17; Hans Johnson, on section 20, and Ole O. Bakken, on section 4. The above named persons may properly be considered the pioneers of the town; and of those, only Ole O. Bakken now remain, the rest having moved away. N. W. Denson was the first white child born in the town, March 19, 1848, and a daughter of John Eastman was born April 14th of the same year.

This town has a serious drawback, on account of its long distance from railroad communication, being situated in the center, between several railroad stations, none of which is nearer than twenty miles from its center; but there now seem to be strong hopes of a narrow guage railway at no very distant day, to be built through the village of Blanchardville (from Freeport, Illinois, to Lone Rock, Iowa county, Wis.). Blanchardville is a thriving village, located about three miles southwest from the southwest corner of the town, in the town of Blanchard, La Fayette county. There is also a village, named Moscow, located about two miles southwest from the southwest corner of the town of Perry. Both of these places have good grist mills and other conveniences usually found in villages — such as postoffice, churches, school houses, traders, mechanics, etc. The village of Moscow is located on the Blue Mounds' branch of the Pecatonica river, and the village of Blanchardville on the

Pecatonica river, where the Blue Mounds branch empties into it.

The first church in the town was built in 1851, on sec. 8, and belonged to the Norwegian Lutheran denomination. The style and size of this church structure exhibits in a striking degree the simplicity of pioneer life, and the modest pretensions of that day. It was built of logs, and its size only twenty feet square. It also served as a school house until the fall of 1852, when the first one was built in the town. This school house was of small dimensions, hastily constructed of rude logs, and located about a quarter of a mile east of where Daley's store now stands, on section 8.

Town of Perry was at first joined to town of Primrose for township system of government, but in the winter of 1854 was organized as a separate town and had its own government. At the first town election, A. Sanderson, one of the early settlers, was elected *chairman*, and O. B. Daley, *town clerk*. To exhibit an instance as a remarkable contrast between early pioneer life and the present day, in relation to choosing officers, and to show that the offices sought the men, instead of the men the offices, in those good old times, may be mentioned the fact, that, at the first town election, O. B. Daley, Esq., was elected town clerk, justice of the peace, superintendent of schools and town treasurer.

The nationalities settling in said town, since 1848, have been mostly Norwegians and Germans, and these are now the only remaining nationalities there-

in; about three-fourths of the population of said town being Norwegian, and one-fourth German, the other nationalities having all moved away.

The town, politically, is noted for its casting a large republican vote, the Norweigian portion of its citizens voting that ticket, while the Germans adhere to the democratic party with equal distinctiveness.

The town, on account of its detached situation from the rest of the business world, had, during the first years of its existence, to suffer considerable inconvenience in relation to mail communications. The nearest postoffice was at Blue Mounds, where Ebenezer Brigham was postmaster; and to relieve the inhabitants of Perry and vicinity, somewhat, a sort of private mail communication was established by the citizens, by which they hired a person as mail carrier who each week, brought the mail matter from Blue Mounds postoffice, for all of those in the town of Perry and vicinity, who had joined in paying the expenses for this private mail establishment. On this occasion O. B. Daley, Esq., was selected postmaster, to distribute and receive the mail. This mail service was kept up until 1857, when a special mail route was established through the town, with the appointment of A. Sanderson as postmaster. He served as postmaster until 1871, at which time a regular mail route,with a semi-weekly mail,was established through the town, and O. B. Daley, Esq., residing on section 8, was appointed postmaster. On section 23 there was another postoffice established at Forward, with

Christian Evenston as postmaster. He is also engaged in the sale of merchandise.

The town has no village, but O. B. Daley, Esq., has established a trading and general business place on section 8, where he has kept a well furnished store since 1853. In close proximity to him is a commodious church of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, erected in 1860, together with the parsonage of the pastor. Rev. P. M. Brodahl was the first regular pastor of the church, and served as such from the summer of 1856 till the summer of 1868, when he returned to Norway. Rev. A. Jacobson is the present pastor, and has served since 1868. The church is in a flourishing condition, and its pastor is well liked, and faithfully attends to his pastoral duties.

There is also near Daley's store a beautiful and commodious frame school house, which has the last few years taken the place of the old log school house, the first school house in the town. There is a wagon and blacksmith shop conducted by Errick Henderickson and Ole E. Stam, while Dr. William McFarlane has settled in this town, and is engaged in the practice of his profession in the place of Dr. C. B. J. Hersch, who for a number of years was the settled physician in town, thus making the place contiguous to Daley's store a lively place as a hamlet.

There are now three churches in the town, two belonging to the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, and one German Catholic. There are five organized school districts, besides parts of districts adjoining other towns.

For the growth and progress of Perry much credit is due to A. Sanderson, the first chairman, and to O. B. Daley, the first clerk. They were both indefatigable in encouraging the settlement and contributing largely to its growth and progress. To O. B. Daley, Esq., is mainly due the honor of getting the Norwegian Lutheran congregation effectively organized, and it may well be said, without exaggeration, that O. B Daley, Esq., is justly deserving of the universal respect and esteem in which he is held by the community of which he is the honored member. A. Sanderson is no longer in the land of the living, having laid down the struggles and warfare of life about four years since. Many others of the early settlers have also crossed the river of death. The present chairman of the town is L. M. Anderson, Esq., who has served the town faithfully in that capacity since 1870. Mr. Anderson has well earned the confidence thus bestowed, in sending him for so many successive terms to represent the town in the county board of supervisors, as public interests will be well taken care of, and never suffer in his hands. The town has once been represented in the legislature by Hon. Ole Torgerson, now a resident of Madison.

Notwithstanding the inconvenience of long distance from markets, Perry has made rapid strides towards wealth and competency, and has now a population of about one thousand souls, made up mostly of thrifty tillers of the soil. Judging from facts, it may be safely predicted that the town will contribute its full share

to the rapid increase of the population of old Dane; peopled as it is by Norwegian and German branches of the prolific Teutonic race. As an instance, it may be mentioned that one of the early settlers, Michael Gobel, who died about one year since, left surviving, thirteen healthy children, and several other instances, nearly approaching this can be shown in this town. If we may thus be allowed to judge by analogy, we may safely claim that the town of Perry will, in the near future, possess a numerous population of American born descendants of the Norwegian and German branches of the Teutonic race of men, proudly tracing their lineage from this great ancestral source. Thus are made up the historic streams, forever mingling their waters with the great and mighty flood of the American Republic.

## WESTPORT AND VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE.

BY E. L. NOYES.

The town of Westport is situated northwest of the city of Madison, and adjoining the town of Madison on the north, or north side of lake Mendota (Fourth Lake), a part of the lake being within the limits of the town. The northern and western parts of the town are principally prairie, beautiful and undulating in hills, valleys and lowland, interspersed with groves of timber, or oak openings, while the southern part of the town is heavily timbered with oak, hickory and maple, and is familiarly known as the "Sugar-bush." The climate is notably healthy, and the soil rich and adapted to the luxuriant growth of all kinds of grain, green and lignuminous crops, as well as dairy purposes.

In the fall of 1845, Louis Montandon, a Frenchman, and Edward Boyles, an Irishman, built a log cabin on section twenty, and during that winter engaged themselves in splitting rails. They endured great privation during the first year or two, and were necessitated to travel on foot about eighteen miles, through creeks and swamps, to get their corn and flour gristed, and on many occasions were obliged to barricade the door of their cabin to keep out the wolves, who would surround them in the night on all

occasions when they were provided with a good supply of pork and flour, making the night hideous with their howling and efforts to obtain an entrance.

Lecta, Louis' wife, was a helpmate to him in many ways, and in none more so than when he was appointed assessor; she did the business for him with a promptness and energy better suited to the sterner sex, and equally as well done.

In 1846, a few American families of the names of Burdick, Tower, Bradbury and Rodgers came into the town, and afterwards a number of families from Westport, Ireland (from which the town took its name), among whom were the O'Malleys. Collins, Fitzgibbon and Ruddy, also came about this time.

For a number of years, there was some difficulty in getting access from Madison to the eastern portion of the township, in consequence of there being no bridges across the Catfish, but on the building of Farwell's grist mill and two bridges across the Yahara, immigration started into the town, and in 1849 and 1850 a large number of settlers from Kilkenny, and other parts of Ireland, purchased farms in the central and western part of the town, among whom were the late Hon. Mat. Roach, P. R. Tierney, J. Welsh, Wm. and Lawrence O'Keefe, Martin Reed and a number of others, and the Irish element has remained strong and influential, some of its wealthiest farmers being of that nationality. The present population, like most western towns, is mixed with Irish, German, English, American, Scotch and Norwegian, and agriculture is the principal pursuit.

Early settlers tell of the exquisite beauty of the whole surroundings of Westport when they first settled in it, and it has never lost a single charm either in its native landscapes or what art and the hand of man has bestowed. Game, of all kinds, was abundant, and was consequently much resorted to by the Indians. In the spring the settlers were accustomed to turn their hogs out to run at large until fall, and when in need of fresh pork would proceed with guns and dogs in search of some fat pigs, shoot and carry home for use. When the weather became colder the hogs would return with their broods for winter quarters.

There are some interesting mounds in the town, a few of which may be seen on the hospital grounds; the building itself is built where a number of Indian graves and mounds stood, and visitors to the hospital and vicinity will find the drives full of interest and beauty, and will be still more so when the contemplated carriage drive from Madison around the edge of the lake shall be completed. In former years the Indian wigwams might be seen on and near the hospital grounds, where the Indians would be hunting muskrat or fishing. Before the United States government ordered their removal to Nebraska, they made annual visits to what was then called the Indian village, on section thirty-three, on the land now belonging to John D. Clute. On section twenty, on the farm of J. Fitzgibbon, there are a number of large mounds of an oblong, or oval shape, overlooking Fourth Lake, and also near the shore of the lake at a

place known as the Black Woods, near Foxes' bluff, a name given to that locality from the frequency of these little animals to be found there. Near here the City of Four Lakes was first contemplated, and where some log cabins were built and cellars excavated in anticipation of that hope. One of the mounds on Fitzgibbon's farm was opened by some of the citizens, but nothing of interest found but some stone hammers or knives, and a few flint arrowheads.

The first town meeting was held in the house of Michael O'Malley, in 1849, and the following officers were elected: *Supervisors* — Michael O'Malley (Chairman), John Collins and Louis Montanda. *Town Clerk* — Thomas O'Malley (but who afterwards resigned, and Thomas R. Hill was appointed). *Treasurer* — Thomas Butts. *Sup't of Schools* — I. P. Tower. *Justices of the Peace* — Amos Rodgers, Charles Clarkson, I. P. Tower and Azariah Fay. *Constables* — Martin O'Malley and Milo Wells. *Assessor* — John Bradbury. *Fence Viewers* — Michael O'Malley, Lawrence Rodgers and Edward Boyles. *Sealer of Weights* — Thomas R. Hill.

Mr. Thomas Shillinglaw was the first postmaster in the town, and his wife is known to have been the first lady justice of the peace in Wisconsin, having been appointed by the town board, subscribed to the oath of office and filed her bonds in pursuance of law.

The present officers of the town are: *Supervisors* — James Hogan (Chairman), Michael Koldes, and Raynerd Helt. *Treasurer* — William Wilson. *Clerk*

Jacob Buhlman. *Asssessor* — George Schumacher. *Dep. Sheriff* — James Riley. *Justice* — I. P. Bacon.

In the central part of the town is a large Catholic church, built in 1860, by the Rev. P. J. Lavans. It is now under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Father Miller, whose energy and christian character is doing a good and lasting work among his parishioners. He has, also, charge of the German Mission church, in Waunakee, on section 8, built in 1874. The best of harmony prevails among co-religionists, and in the hiring of teachers religious persuasion has not been deemed a qualification for obtaining a school.

One of the state's hospitals for the insane is located within the town, on the north bank of Lake Mendota, and in plain view of Madison. The hospital is a large and beautiful stone building (the stone being obtained from quarries within the town), and is surrounded by a beautiful farm of between three and four hundred acres, the labor of cultivating being mostly performed by the patients, and a large share of the vegetables and fruits used in the building are raised on the farm. There is, also, a large dairy of cows kept for supplying the institution with milk. Mr. Thos. Hill, an early settler, at one time contracted to purchase eighty acres of land near where the present site of the hospital is, and to pay for the same in cord wood. He cut the wood and piled it, but before he was able to consummate the bargain, a prairie fire came along and burnt up all his labor and so disheartened him, that he resolved to make no further efforts to regain the land,

which is now a portion of the beautiful grounds of the hospital.

For years, Westport was the residence of Ex-Governor Farwell, on a large farm on the margin of Fourth Lake, adjoining the hospital grounds, and part owned by them. The peninsular island now used by the institution as a vegetable garden received its name as "Governor's" Island from the above fact.

It is also the home of Miss Ella Wheeler, whose poems are becoming known, from their sweet and tender heart strains, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

John Kershaw, an Englishman, was one of the notables in his day, and lived for a number of years in a shanty on section six. He was a man of remarkable memory and general information; indeed, was known as the walking cyclopedia of Westport. He knew the value of money just so far as it was capable of being used in acquiring books, which he read to know, and not only to possess. Kershaw's shanty was one of those places where to lie in bed was to command the entrance, and when blustering weather unlatched the door, John would lie still and give it a kick with his foot to again close it. It was an airy house, when any one contemplates its roof, which was shingled with eighteen-inch oak shingles, that year after year's exposure had brought into a semi-circular shape outward. John never lost his opportunities in acquiring knowledge, and it is said his astronomical culture was greatly heightened by the ethereal vision, seen through the telescopic shingles of his home.

His name, however, is a pleasing recollection to the citizens of Westport, and few would receive a heartier welcome than old John Kershaw should he again return to Westport from his new home in the West.

On Six-Mile Creek there is a good grist mill, built in 1860 by E. D. Churchill, who sold out to the late Mr. Wm. Packham, who, together with his two sons, Raymond and William, run it successfully for a number of years, when they sold out, in 1876, to the present owner, Mr. John Bowerman, and who purposes increasing his power and facilities by the aid of steam. A short distance further up the creek there was formerly a saw mill.

The town is well supplied with quarries, and the Cream stone, or marble, used in the building of the government court house and post-office, in Madison, was obtained from the quarry on section 11, and which the United States government purchased for that purpose. The stone was exhibited and much admired at the Centennial, as were also some of the other products of the town.

A branch of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway passes through the town from northwest to southeast, with Mendota station, on the the hospital farm, and Waunakee, on sections five and eight, in the northwest.

Waunakee is a pretty and thriving village, situated on a beautiful prairie, from which it is said to have derived its name. It was platted January 30, 1871, by George C. Fish and Louis Baker, and has now a population of two hundred, and a brisk trade is carried on in all kinds of agricultural produce, live

stock, lumber, dry goods, clothing and general merchandise. The surrounding country is rich and productive, and well watered.

Waunakee Business Directory.—Packham Bros., lumber, grain and live stock; Buhlman Bros., dry goods, groceries, clothing, &c.; C. Hudson, drugs, groceries and general merchandise; L. P. Goodchap, boots, shoes, groceries and general merchandise; Taylor Bros., boots, shoes, groceries and general merchandise; E. L. Noyes, contractor and builder and dealer in village lots, &c.; E. L. Noyes, cheese factory; R. W. Towne, hotel keeper and meat market; I. P. Bacon, justice of the peace; P. R. Tierney, attorney at law; James Riley, deputy sheriff and dealer in farm machinery; C. Gusman, carpenter; A. J. Van Tassel, carpenter; A. Peih, saloon keeper; M. Schuluck, saloon keeper; J. Hilgert, saloon keeper; J. Howard, physician; J. Knipschild, shoemaker; T. R. Lutzow, shoemaker; E. J. Foster, station and express agent; J. T. Akers, blacksmith; Hilbert Bros., blacksmiths; Mrs. Foster, milliner.

## SPRINGDALE.

BY JAMES P. McPHERSON, ESQ.

SPRINGDALE, town No. 6 north, of range No. 7 east, lies fifteen to twenty-one miles southwest of the city of Madison, and is traversed by the Madison and Mineral Point, and the Madison and Wiota state roads, and the territorial road from the Badger Mills to Blue Mounds.

There are in this township some remarkable remains of that ancient people, who are supposed to have inhabited this country prior to its occupancy by the Indian races; the most noteworthy of which are to be found on section fifteen. Here are three mounds about fifty feet apart, and extending east and west; they are uniform in size, being about six feet in height above the surface of the adjacent land, and circular at the base, where they are nearly forty feet in diameter. Commencing at the distance of fifty feet from the most eastern mound, and extending in an unvarying direction to the east, there is a long low ridge or bank of earth, one hundred feet in length; the height of this ridge above the surface of the ground on which it is situated is four feet, and measures six feet through the base, north and south. A line drawn due east and west would divide the three mounds and ridge exactly in the center. Being upon elevated land,

the view from the site of these mounds would, were it not for the luxuriant young trees by which they are surrounded, be beautiful and commanding. In the summer of 1870 one of these mounds was partially explored by Mr. Charles H. Lewis, a resident of the town, when a well preserved human skeleton was unearthed, together with a stone pipe of curious workmanship, two stone knives, some highly polished and perforated pieces of bone, and many stone implements, the use of which is now unknown.

These mounds and their contents are objects of great interest to the antiquarian, as they point to the stone age of Wisconsin, and tend to the elucidation of the great problem in regard to that extinct and mysterious people, the Mound Builders of America.

The town was settled in 1844 or 1845, the first settler being Mr. John Harlow, who built the first house within the limits of the town. That house is still standing on the farm of Mr. Patrick Casey, on section one.

In 1845, Messrs. Michael Jacket, Wyatt Perkins, Perry Munger, Thomas Bentley and others, settled in the northeast part of the town and commenced the improvement of their lands. Mr. Perkins built a dam and saw mill on a small branch of Sugar river. These were regarded by some of Mr. Perkins' neighbors, as hindrances rather than improvements, and led to litigation, which resulted in the removal of the dam and mill, and also Mr. Perkins, who sought a new location for his mechanical industry.

In 1846 Messrs. Thomas B. Miles, Axium Malone, Hawley Childs, N. H. Dryden, Thore T. Spaanem, Morgan L. Curtis, John S. Berge, Henry Boland, Martin Nash, Michael Johnson and others, moved in and occupied land in other parts of town. In 1850 John Mitchell and James P. McPherson settled on section 24 and 25.

The town was organized in 1848, the first election for town officers being held on the second Tuesday of April in that year. Twenty votes were cast, and twenty-one offices were filled, and the following named persons were elected, viz.: Chairman, Martin Nash; Supervisors, Wyatt Perkins and Thomas Bentley; Town Clerk, Robert N. Ashmore; Treasurer, Morgan L. Curtis; Collector, Axium Malone; Justices, Martin Nash and Morgan L. Curtis; Commissioners of Highways, Thomas Bentley, N. H. Dryden, and Robert N. Ashmore; School Commissioners, Hawley Childs, Thos. B. Miles and Wyatt Perkins; Assessors, Perry Munger and Thos. B. Miles; Fence Viewers, Michael Jacket and Hawley Childs; Constables, Axium Malone and John I. Berge; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Wm. A. Dryden.

Of the twenty-one officers then elected, there are four of them yet residents of the town, viz.: Messrs. N. H. Dryden, Thos. B. Miles, Michael Jacket and John I. Berge.

It was determined that no town tax should be levied, and that the officers should receive no pay for their services for that year, but shortly after the elec-

tion, a special town meeting was quietly convened by the incumbents interested, and a small town tax, sufficient to satisfy the office-holders of those early days, was levied, and in due time collected.

From 1848 to 1852, the population of the town was largely increased by immigration, and nearly all the land was then entered and occupied by settlers from the Eastern and Middle States, and from England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and Norway, who have devoted their attention and labor to the cultivation of the soil. The natural facilities for manufactures of any description are but limited, and agriculture has therefore been the occupation of the people, and will likely remain so.

The western branch of Sugar river runs through the west and southwest part of the town, and the village of Mount Vernon. This village was platted in 1850–51, by Mr. George G. Britts, who then commenced the improvement of the water-power and built a saw mill. In 1852, Dr. P. Byam obtained possession of the village site and much of the adjacent land, enlarged the village plat, and built a small but well arranged grist mill, which has been of great convenience to the citizens.

Near where the river enters the town, there is a place familiarly known as the Mormon Baptismal Pond, because at an early day several of the followers of Joe Smith, having come from the South after the government had ordered their removal to Utah, and settled in several places in the west, among oth-

ers here, where they were accustomed to preach and baptize converts. The excitement at these services is said to have been equal to any fair, and perhaps with but little difference, as Saint and Gentile, for miles around, met more for the hilarity incident to the occasion than for any great conversions that followed, although some of the preachers were powerful orators. It is said that during the baptismal rites the excitement would become so great that an occasional mistake would occur as some poor unfortunate dog was forced into the river by wicked Gentiles, and then seized by an excited Saint and devoutly immersed. These poor animals were afterwards known as Mormon proselytes, put out on probation.

Religious discussions between the Mormons and others were of common occurrence, and three of their most eloquent preachers challenged a Mr Cameron, a Scotch layman, to a public discussion of their doctrines in the school house. Though a busy time among the farmers, they nevertheless assembled early in the morning from far and near, to hear the combatants. The discussion continued the whole day, and though the layman had persuasive and subtile orators to contend with, he came out the victor, and not long afterwards, as well as by a number of indescreet acts of a moral character, the Mormon cause began to wane, and finally to move out of the town.

The town is divided into five whole and three joint school districts, with six school houses located in the town, two of which are stone and four are frame build-

ings, all of which are in good condition. The citizens, at town and school district meetings, have always evinced the interest they feel in the existence and prosperity of our common schools, by providing liberally for their support.

There are but two church edifices in the town, the Norwegian Lutheran, occupying an elevated position on the prairie ridge, in section 8, and the Baptist church, in Mount Vernon. A German Lutheran congregation meet for worship in the school house of school district No. 3, on section 25, and a German Methodist congregation meet at the houses of the members, in the same neighborhood.

In 1859, Mr. George West opened a store on section 11, near what is now the Clontarf postoffice. He continued in business about a year, and was succeeded by Messers. Peter Quigley, John C. Thompson, Thos. Managan, and Patrick Carr. Mr. Carr has continued in business there for about fourteen years, has a large stock of goods, suitable for the locality, and does an extensive and increasing trade with the citizens of Springdale, Verona and Cross Plains.

The first postoffice in the town, Springdale, was established in 1850. Mr. Thos. B. Miles was appointed postmaster, and retained the office until December, 1866, when he resigned.

There are now three postoffices in the town, Springdale, on section 25, J. P. McPherson, postmaster; Mount Vernon, I. G. Brader, Sr., postmaster; and Clontarf, on section 12, P. Carr, postmaster.

## MOUNT VERNON — BY DR. W. J. DONALD.

This village, of about one hundred inhabitants, is situated on the middle branch of the Sugar river, nineteen miles southwest of Madison. The location is a pleasant one, the greater part being on the east bank of the river, while on the west side, some high rocks and hills add to the picturesqueness of the scenery. On one of these rocks grew an old pine tree that was an ancient landmark to the early settlers, and a noted object of interest to visitors because of its marked distinction from all surroundings. It was blown down by a wind-storm on the evening of January 1, 1876.

The surrounding country, though rolling, is productive, and well adapted to the raising of stock and dairy purposes, and inhabited by a thrifty class of farmers, mostly of German and Norwegian origin.

The health of the place is excellent, with a remarkable exemption from epidemics, particularly scarlet fever, and cases of ague are rare.

Two religious societies are here represented, Baptist and Methodist. The Baptists have a good church edifice. The Methodists hold service in the school-house, a good stone building.

The never-failing Sugar river affords two excellent water powers, with only one, as yet, improved. Its distance from Madison and other villages makes it a good point for business of all kinds; not one, in truth, can be said to be overdone. Those in business here have been, in most every instance, successful, and have continued residents of the place for many years. Mr. John Jones, proprietor of the flouring mill, learned his business here, and afterward became partner, and again eight years ago, proprietor, while he now rents the mill to C. W. Korn. Mr. I. G. Brader, Sr., who keeps an excellent general store, has been in business, with a little exception, for the past eighteen years, and has held the office of postmaster continuously since 1856.* Mr. C. C. Allen furnishes a good hotel, and lately erected new buildings for the better accommodation of the traveling public.

Dr. William J. Donald, after a year's respite from business, is at his post again, as in the past eleven years. Mr. W. W. Abbot, blacksmith, and C. J. Lewis, builder and carpenter, have been residents of the place for the past twenty-five years, and in active business. Among others doing business and generally prospering may be mentioned: Foye and Rea, masons; W. W. Miner, boots and shoes; M. F. Van Norman, live stock buyer; Andrew Peterson, blacksmith; Erick Erickson, shoemaker; P. E. Call, saddler; F. A. Fix, hotel and saloon; George, Wade, butcher; C. H. Lewis, carpenter; A. C. Brader, clerk; I. G. and A. C. Brader were in the mercantile business until two years ago. I. G. Brader, Jr., removed to Iowa, but has recently returned, and built himself a residence, and expects to resume business soon.

* Since the above was in type I. G. Brader, Sr., has sold to O. B. Daley, of the town of Perry, and his son Herman will continue in charge of the business in Mount Vernon.

## SUN PRAIRIE.

BY DR. C. G. CROSSE.

In pursuance of an act of the first, or Belmont, legislative assembly, which located the seat of government at Madison, Mr. Augustus A. Bird had been elected acting commissioner for the erection of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the assembly and other officers of the territorial government. On the 26th day of May, 1837, the acting commissioner, accompanied by his brother, Mr. C. H. Bird, and a company of forty-five men, started from Milwaukee for the town of Madison. At that time nearly all of Wisconsin westward from Milwaukee was an unbroken wilderness. One solitary settler at Summit, about twenty miles west of the lake, three at Watertown, on Rock river, one at Fort Atkinson, twenty miles down the river, and one at Janesville. These bold pioneers, with their wives and children, stood sentinels upon the outmost borders of civilization. With these exceptions, all was in the condition in which it left the fashioning hand of the Creator. Wild beasts roamed at will over its forests and prairies, and their dominion was disputed only by the scarcely less wild and savage Winnebagoes. On the fifth day of June, the company above mentioned, tired, foot-sore and depressed, plodded their weary

way through the wild scenery of this then unexplored wilderness. Nine days had elapsed since they started on their weary march, and they had been drenched with rains and oppressed with continuous cloudy and lowering weather — the sun had not once gladdened them with its beams since the day on which they left Milwaukee. At length, as they emerged upon the borders of the beautiful prairie, about two miles east of where the village of Sun Prairie now stands, the sun shone forth in all its brightness, and illuminated the scene before them as with a halo of glory. The contrast which this beautiful vision presented to the gloom with which they had been surrounded was so great, that they greeted it with a shout, and almost involuntarily bivouacked upon its borders, christening the locality "Sun Prairie," which name they carved into the bark of an oak tree which stood near by; and for many years this tree bore upon its breast, in rude letters, the inscription "Sun Prairie." Hence originated the name of the locality which is the subject of this sketch. The company above mentioned encamped that night upon the spot, which some two years afterwards was selected by Mr. C. H. Bird for his future home, and upon which his residence now stands. In the year 1839, Mr. B. became the first white settler in the town of Sun Prairie, and during the first year of his residence his only neighbors consisted of a band of Winnebagoes, whose wigwams were upon the present site of the Baptist Church, and who hunted the game that abounded in the vicin-

ity. In 1840, Mr. Thomas Marks, and the next year Messrs. Benj. Knight, Charles Peasley, Horace Potter, W. Van Bergen, John Winsled, John Ostrander and Rev. Albert Slingerland, with their families, located at this point. Col. W. H. Angell and several others came within the next year or two, and thus was formed the little hamlet which for several years, and until invaded by the enemy of all sylvan beauty and quietude — the railroad — constituted one of the most lovely rural hamlets in the west. While settlers were thus slowly arriving at the little village, others were locating in the surrounding country; at Pierceville, some four miles south, Messrs. Enoch and Bradford Churchill, Ira Balch, John Taylor, W. A. Pierce, Tisdale Pierce, Calvin Flower, Mark Haslett and John Phillips formed a little settlement in 1840; at the Bailey settlement, two miles southwest from the village, Samuel, Asahel and Charles Bailey and R. T. Cameron were the advance guard, and arrived in 1841; at other points within the present limits of the township of Sun Prairie, A. W. Dickinson, George Pine and Mr. Brockway located in the year 1842. At Northumberland, in the town of Bristol, at Deanville and other points in the vicinity, little settlements were springing into existence, and the country was beginning to assume importance as an agricultural district.

That the pathway of these early pioneers was not always strewn with flowers will be readily believed. Their lot was no more exempt from toil, privation and hardship than is that of all who brave the perils

of frontier life. The following incident, selected from a large number of similar anecdotes, is mentioned as illustrative of this: In the fall of 1837, C. H. Bird, Zenas Bird, Norman Pratt and Mr. Parker were sent to Milwaukee by their employer, the acting commissioner above mentioned, and having accomplished the object of their mission, were on their return journey. In the act of crossing Rock river their canoe capsized, and all their provisions and accoutrements were lost. During the remaining four days of their homeward journey, their only food consisted of oak apples — little excrescences caused by the sting of an insect upon the leaves of oak trees. But for the timely meeting with two brave fellows, sent from Madison, with food for their relief, they must have perished from fatigue and hunger.

The township of Sun Prairie was organized in the year 1839, and included all that district which now constitutes the townships of York, Medina, Bristol and Sun Prairie. The first election, or town meeting, was held in the spring of 1840, at the house of Mr. C. H. Bird, and it was presided over by John Catlin, Esq., from the town of Madison, who had been deputed for that purpose. At that election nine votes were cast.

In 1844, the township or precinct of Sun Prairie was subdivided by the organization of the towns of York and Bristol, from its northern half, and in 1848 the town of Medina was organized, leaving a township of the usual dimensions, six miles square. Its

surface is slightly undulating and is of the quality usually known as "oak openings," interspersed with small projections or indentations from the neighboring prairie. It is traversed from northwest to southeast by the Koshkonong creek, along which are occasional bottom-lands or natural meadows of great fertility. The original settlers were almost exclusively of New England origin, but in later years quite a number of Germans and a few Irish have found homes within its borders. Of the early settlers above enumerated, nearly all remained as permanent residents, and founded homes for themselves and posterity such as are a recompense for the toils and privations which they endured as pioneers. A few only partook of the restless spirit which so often haunts the frontiersman, and moved farther on as civilization crowded upon their footsteps. A. W. Dickinson transferred his farm to John A. Peckham, who now resides upon it. Horace Potter sold out his farm, which is now owned by Pardee Peckham. Mr. Brockway was followed by Moses Vervalen, and he by Joshua Boyles, the present thrifty and enterprising owner. John Ostrander early transferred his home to the present town of Bristol and became one of the first settlers of the Northumberland neighborhood. The township, exclusive of the village, has at present a population of about sixteen hundred, who are devoted solely to agricultural pursuits. The New England characteristics of its early settlers have always exerted a decided influence upon the social, political, religious and busi-

ness character of the people, hence morality, conscientiousness and zeal have always been prominent characteristics and have resulted in the establishment of schools, church organizations and societies, especially distinguished by these attributes, and honesty, integrity and strict economy in their business relations have resulted in abundant prosperity.

The limits of this chapter preclude any biographical sketches of individuals or even the briefest allusion to the part taken by the people of Sun Prairie in its local history or in its relations with other communities. Most especially do we regret the want of space in which to rehearse their record in the war of the rebellion. It must suffice to say that in unity of sentiment, in support of the government, no people were more loyal, and in the practical bestowal of men and means to aid in that desperate struggle none did their duty more fully.

Since the separation of the village from the township by the incorporation of the former in 1868, the citizens of the township have erected a neat and commodious town-house, on section eighteen, in which is transacted the business of the town government. It is also the place of meeting of a large and flourishing Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, which embraces a large proportion of the farmers of the town. The present board of supervisors consists of F. L. Warner, chairman, A. F. Persons and Robert Beecham.

In the year 1859, a line of railroad having been projected from Milwaukee to the Baraboo valley,

had been completed as far as Watertown, and located and graded on a line about three miles south of the village of Sun Prairie. The denizens of this little hamlet, having for about twenty years enjoyed the quietude and seclusion consequent upon their great distance from any business centre, had apparently no aspirations for their village, nor even dreamed that it was possible to convert the Sabbath stillness and sylvan beauties of their streets into a mart of busy trade — a market for the produce of an extensive and productive tract of country. The rapid progress in the construction of the railroad, however, and the certainty that if completed upon its projected route their little village would be forever cut off from any hope of future greatness, seemed at once to arouse them from their apparent lethargy to a sense of the necessity for action. Meetings were held, committees appointed and negotiations entered into with S. L. Rose, president of the railroad company, S. S. Merrill, general manager, D. C. Jackson and other influential railroad men, with the object of securing a change in the location of the road so as to bring it to Sun Prairie. These men were soon won over to the support of the project, but the change of route could not be made without some special legislation. A bill for this purpose was introduced into the senate at the next session of the legislature, but notwithstanding a strong effort in its favor by railroad officials and lobbyists from the village of Sun Prairie, it was bitterly opposed by antagonistic interests and

defeated. It is said that the then member of assembly from that district regretted the fate of the bill in the senate, because he thereby missed an opportunity to deliver "a d—d spicy little speech," which he had prepared in its favor. Strategy, however, which more often than valor, wins victories, succeeded in procuring the necessary legislation under which the desired change could be made. A clause was introduced into a bill then pending, which provided that no valid injunction could be served upon a railroad company to restrain them from doing any act unless thirty days previous notice had been served upon such company. The bill to which this provision was attached passed the legislature and became a law before those who were opposed to the desired change of route were aware that under it the change could be made. Thus protected from restraint by injunction, the company hastened the laying of the track without unnecessary delay, in some places not even grading the road-bed, and in less than thirty days the route was changed, and the triumph of Sun Prairie secured. In November, 1859, the railroad was completed to that point. Then followed a period of active business prosperity, and apparently a golden opportunity for building up, on a permanent basis, a town of considerable importance and magnitude. For ten years, Sun Prairie was the western terminus of the Milwaukee and Baraboo Valley Railroad, and was one of the largest and most flourishing inland grain markets in the state.

That this period of business activity and great prosperity was not productive of more permanent results as manifested in enlarged growth and increase of population and wealth may perhaps be partially explained by the fact that at about the time when the attention of capitalists and enterprising business men was being attracted to this point, the war of the rebellion came with all its attendant horrors; enlistment and conscription were the order of the day; the population was decimated and business of all kinds except that of supplying men and means for the army was depressed and languishing. As a market for the produce of the country Sun Prairie was in no way injured by this trying ordeal, but its prospects of being permanently benefited thereby were materially lessened. Capital became shy of investment in embryo cities, and enterprise was diverted into other channels than that of building up rural towns, be their prospects ever so inviting. In the meantime, and before it was possible to recover from these and other depressing influences, which the prescribed limits of this chapter preclude from mention, the railroad had changed ownership, and been diverted from its originally determined route and made to converge toward and join the main line of the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien road at the city of Madison. This deprived Sun Prairie of its advantages as an inland railroad terminus, and made of it simply a way-station. Its inability to acquire strength, wealth and influence rendered it powerless to prevent the build-

ing up of competing markets, and as a consequence it has been shorn of a portion of its former business prosperity. By an act of the legislature, passed in 1868, the village of Sun Prairie was incorporated. Its government consists of a president and three trustees, with such subordinate officers as are usual in a village municipality, all of whom are elected annually. The first president, Mr. W. H. Angell, held that office two terms, and his successors, Messrs. W. H. Chandler, C. R. Babcock, C. G. Crosse, John Gibbons, Geo. Maloney and C. C. La Bore, one term each, in the order in which they are named — C. G. Crosse being the present incumbent. The present trustees are Messrs. Wm. Small, H. Dirnfeldt and H. Daniels.

The village is situated in the midst of one of the most productive agricultural districts in the state — about twelve miles northeast from the city of Madison and seventy miles west from Milwaukee — and is the natural outlet for the productions and the mart of trade for quite a large extent of country. There were shipped from this point, in the year 1876, about 120,000 bushels of wheat, 30,000 bushels of barley, 17,000 bushels of oats and other grain, 1,300 fat swine, 1,000 head of fat cattle, and other produce in proportion. There is at present a population of about eight hundred, much the largest number of whom are American born, and a large per cent. of whom are from New England. A few intelligent and liberal-minded Germans, and a lesser number of Irish, serve to enliven and give zest to the otherwise staid charac-

ter of the inhabitants. Many of the citizens are agriculturists from the surrounding country who have retired from their farms to enjoy the school, church and society privileges of the village. The mechanic arts are quite fully represented; numerous workers in metal and in wood ply their busy trades and earn liberal incomes by their skill as artisans. The profession of the law has one representative, that of medicine four, and the clergy six.

The mercantile history of the village dates from the year 1842, when one David C. Butterfield — a quaint genius, a sort of "connecting link" between the Indian and Caucasian — became proprietor of a few dry goods, and commenced a traffic with the few white settlers and more numerous Indians. He was superseded in 1844, by Edwin Brayton, who continued the business about one year, and sold out to Mr. Silas Smith, a Methodist preacher, who for several years eked out a precarious support from its profits. That the occupation of a merchant in those early years was not repaid with financial success, may be inferred from the facts that seventy miles of ill-conditioned roads intervened between it and any market for the produce of the country; that no means of transportation existed except by teams, and that the prices of grain in Milwaukee were often so low as scarcely to cover the cost of transportation. This preacher-merchant was of the muscular order of Christians, as well as an honest and upright business man, and when, as sometimes happened, a customer became rude and

boisterous in consequence of having indulged too freely in the then rather common beverage, whisky, the preacher's brawny arm soon "conquered a peace," and sent him on his way sobered by the lesson he had received. Frederick Starr was successor to Mr. Smith, and after a brief business career, he was followed by Thomas White. In 1859, Mr. White, having failed in business, was succeeded by Messrs. Williams & Maloney, who, by their enterprise and business habits, soon established a successful trade, of which Mr. Geo. Maloney is the present representative. The business of Mr. Maloney consists of one of the most extensive and successful dry goods and general merchandising establishments in the village. Mr. C. R. Babcock is proprietor of a flourishing business in dry goods, groceries, etc. His stock is large and diversified, and his business is vigorously and efficiently conducted. He is the present representative of the firm of Babcock, Clark & Co., which in 1861 succeeded to the firm of Main & Marvin, which had been in existence but a brief period. Messrs. Gilman, Weigan & Moak are a new firm, which has recently opened up a fine stock of general merchandise. They are successors to the late firm of Chittenden & Woodward, which succeeded to that of Gilman & Curtis. This last named firm originated in 1870, and was the pioneer in the system of "ready pay." The present firm will steadily adhere to this principle, and are deserving of patronage and encouragement in carrying out this necessary reform in business. Mr. F. H. Rood is a young and

enterprising dealer in groceries, ready-made clothing, etc. He keeps a full stock, is a courteous gentleman and a successful business man. He is successor to his father, Mr. H. Rood, who first established the business in 1862. Mr. Benjamin Franks, a dealer in ready-made clothing, notions, cigars, etc., has a well selected stock, and is doing a good business. He first established the business in 1860. Mr. Geo. Wheelan, from a small beginning in 1862, has established a flourishing business in variety goods in connection with furniture and undertaking. Miss L. E. Stowe and Mrs. L. Bird, have each a full and tastefully selected stock of millinery goods, adapted to the wants of a wide range of customers. Mr. I. D. Hayden has a stock of stoves and tinware, which, in connection with his manufacturing and repairing shop, make a very successful establishment. Messrs. Bowen & Swanton, and also, Mr. E. A. Weigan, dealers in grain and all kinds of farm produce, are each proprietors of a large and spacious grain elevator, and are doing a large and prosperous business. Col. W. H. Angell is the proprietor of an extensive lumber establishment, which for many years he has conducted in an eminently successful and business-like manner. J. D. Bird is also a lumber merchant, doing quite an extensive business. John Hecker and J. G. Egbertson are severally engaged in the manufacture and sale of harness and other wearing apparel for horses. Mr. H. Dirnfeldt is proprietor of a well-kept and bountifully supplied meat market.

The American House, originally built in 1850 by

W. F. Hardwick, is under the present proprietorship of Mr. J. E. Mann, and is the largest hotel in the village. The Sun Prairie House, erected by Mr. W. H. Angell in 1850, and for many years conducted by him, is now presided over by Mr. A. C. Miller, who is a genial and obliging landlord. Mr. N. Mosell is the gentlemanly proprietor of a large and commodious hotel called the Germania House.

The trade in drugs and medicines is conducted by Drs. Crosse and Lewis. The manufacture and sale of boots and shoes by G. W. Bull, C. A. Sawyer, W. E. Morehouse and E. Aschenburker. That of wagons and carriages by C. C. La Bore, J. C. Kanouse and Jacob Weicher; and blacksmithing, in all its branches, is carried on by John Ditmas, W. Small, J. Sweeney, George Kanouse and W. D. B. Pincheon. The trade in jewelry is represented by H. J. Bird.

Of societies, there are six church organizations, and a lodge each of Masons, Odd Fellows, Good Templars and Patrons of Husbandry. Preliminary steps have been taken and a liberal fund subscribed for the establishment of a free library and reading room, and undoubtedly this valuable institution will soon become an established feature in the village. A first class cornet band of musicians regales the lovers of music with its enlivening strains.

Considerable taste and refinement are manifested by the citizens in the character of their private residences, and much enterprise and liberality in their public buildings and improvements. A liberally supported and well conducted graded school, with a fine

building beautifully located on an eminence in the western part of the village, attests the intelligence and liberality of the people. There are five church buildings — the Episcopal, Methodists, Baptists and Congregationalists have each a large, commodious and elegant house of worship, and the Catholics and German Methodists have each a comfortable but more unpretending building.

The absence of those causes of disease which so constantly exist in the vicinity of towns located near watercourses, renders Sun Prairie almost entirely exempt from all diseases of malarial origin, while the purity of its water supply and of its atmosphere, the cleanliness of its streets and public places, and the wise supervision of its authorities, render the visits of those frightful epidemics which so often decimate the population of other localities, quite impossible.

To men of enterprise and business, seeking a location for manufactories or trade away from the disadvantages which are to be contended against in cities, Sun Prairie offers a peculiarly inviting prospect; and the country in the immediate vicinity, by its fertility, its facilities for market and the cheap prices of lands, offers rare inducements to farmers and others who desire to invest in productive real estate, and to all who are seeking pleasant, healthful homes, surrounded by a moral, intelligent and refined community, few places offer greater attractions. It is probable, therefore, that in the not distant future, a season of renewed prosperity will open upon the village, and it will become one of the brightest little gems in the diadem of our state.

## SPRINGFIELD.

BY E. HARDING.

The town of Springfield, or town 8, north of range 8 east, is situated in the northwestern part of Dane county, about ten miles northwest of Madison. The dome of the capitol, and even parts of the city of Madison, are distinctly seen from several portions of the town. The lands of the town consist of oak openings and prairie; the surface, especially in the western part, is diversified with high bluffs.

The only stream in the town rises in section 10, and flows east, and enters the town of Westport, into the six mile creek, thence into lake Mendota. Along this stream are marsh lands that have become valuable by drainage, and on either side of these are woods and young timber, through which one of the old Indian trails passed, and in which Indians still occasionally camp. About the year 1850 or '51, the United States government sent west some five hundred Indians, and in passing through the town, they camped over Sunday on section 10. They were under the command or control of a government officer from Indiana, popularly called Cutall, a Frenchman, and whose name we are informed, was Couteau, in French, signifying a knife. But, be this as it may, he did not,

as his name indicates, cut them in pieces, as there was a numerous return of them the following summer.

The town was once the scene of a bloody conflict, which, as far as can be learned, must have occurred between the Sac and Winnebago Indians, as they had many and desperate feuds before the early pioneers came into this part of the country. Section 7, on the line between Springfield and Berry, gives evidence of what one of these contests was, as Mr. G. Hochstesin, for a number of years, desisted plowing his land, on account of the number of human bones on this section. There is also at this place one, and perhaps two, mounds or graves, where some of the slain were buried, and up to a recent date, stones were set, or piled up, to mark the place. Arrow heads, and other Indian relics are found on this battle-field, as also in other portions of the town.

During the Black Hawk war, it is probable that Gen. Atkinson was chief in command, and that Zach. Taylor, then a colonel, was in command of a part of the regular troops. It appears from history that a good deal of skirmishing and fighting occurred all through the country from Prairie du Chien to Portage. The road known as the Military road, from Green Bay to Chicago, and west to Prairie du Chien, crosses the town of Springfield, and the army marching along this road, at one time encamped for the night on section 9. Jefferson Davis was then a lieutenant, and was with the army at the time above mentioned.

It is related that Gen. Taylor left Lieut. Davis at Prairie du Chien and went to Portage to look after affairs, and that while away, Davis married his daughter on the sly— perhaps he has done worse things since.

The town was first settled by Hawley Simons and family, on section 10, in 1841. His house was the first built in the town. The following year Geo. Johnson and family settled on section 4. Mrs. Simons and Mrs. Johnson were sisters. Also, about the same time, Wm. B. Slaughter settled on section 35, and Wm. Bullock on section 34. Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Bullock are still living in the town, while Mr. Slaughter is now living in Madison, the others being all dead.

About this time the first post office in the town was established at Clark's Corners. Mr. Clark was postmaster, and once a week the mail was carried on horseback from Madison to Sauk. There are now four mails a week by stage between Madison and Sauk, and three post offices — Ashton, postmaster, C. Dresen; Springfield Corners, postmaster, Louis Martini; Hyer's Corners, postmaster, D. R. Hyer.

The first white child born in the town, was Eunice Johnson, who was born September 4, 1845. She married Mr. Robert Ford, and both are still (1877) living here. The first marriage was Mr. Geo. Howard to Miss Sarah M. Murray, in 1844.

The first physician was Dr. Winston. Since then

Drs. S. L. F. Ward and A. A. Rowley have lived and practiced medicine in the town. Rev. N. Martin of the Baptist church was the first minister and pastor. The first death was Mrs. Frances Gillett.

Several families in England formed a colony and sent to this county three men by the names of Reeves, Wilson and Goss, as agents to locate lands; these men came into this town and located lands on sections from 10 to 15 inclusive; and during the same year, 1846, Messrs. Hillier, Gillett, Bardsley, Tinker, Kay, Riley, Tymmes, Seston, Boyer and others arrived from England and settled here. Some of them took possession of the lands and houses provided for them, and others secured places for themselves. Most, if not all of the families forming these settlements were poor. The county was a wilderness, without any of the comforts of civilization, and proved very discouraging to these families who had come from thickly settled communities, and was epecially so to the women and children; but they nobly set their faces to overcome these difficulties. The Indians gave them some trouble and occasionally a good deal of fright, entering their homes and demanding something to eat, and seldom leaving until their wants were well supplied, on which occasions they would eat enormously, and then lay down and sleep, often for a night and a day, and on getting up would give a "ugh" and start off.

Bears and other wild beasts proved a great annoyance. The wolves would carry off their pigs, and

frequently attack the larger animals. Mr. Tinker relates that they would come at night in packs around his house, howling so terribly that they were unable to sleep, and he has often shot them from his windows. The territory paid him a bounty of five dollars for each one he killed.

The first bread used by these families was made from Indian, or corn meal, which they prepared by rasping on a tin grater, and the first wheat flour used in the settlements was very tediously ground in coffee mills. Several of the families brought these coffee mills with them from England, and one would borrow of the other until all had ground their grist. They cleaned the wheat by spreading it on their rough table, and then hand-picking it. The first fanning mill was owned by J. Knipschild, at what was then called Clark's Corners (now Springfield Corners); after that the neighbors carried their grists to his place to be cleaned. The first flouring mill accessible to the people was Hicock's mill, in Iowa county, and as they went with oxen, it was a long and tedious journey. On one occasion, Mr. Bardsley relates that he was gone about two weeks.

It is amusing, at this late day, to hear them tell of some of their experiences in wood chopping. The idea of chopping down large trees whose bark seemed capable of resisting the strongest of axes, was something entirely new to them, and on one occasion three of them traveled all day trying to find soft trees, but not finding any, returned at night wearied and

disappointed with their day's toil. In one instance, a man built a staging of old logs around a tree and cut it off, leaving the stump four or five feet high; he did this for the reason that the tree was smaller at that distance from the ground. For years the stump, from its conspicuousness, was a wonder to many, as they could not comprehend why it was thus cut, until the above fact was learned. But as these men came from factories in England, it is not matter of wonder that they were not very expert backwoodsmen. Of those that came over in this colony, Geo. Gillett, Wm. Bardsley, H. Tinker and Mrs. Hillier are still living in the town. The others are either dead or removed to other places.

The town of Springfield was organized in 1848. and the election of officers was held at the house of George Gillett, when about twenty votes were cast. There were also about twenty-seven children in the town between the ages of four and twenty.

Officers elected: J. M. Babcock, (chairman), R. Winston, D. Coda, Supervisors; B. Downing, Clerk. J. M. Babcock died before the close of the year, and P. S. Rider was elected chairman to fill the vacancy. At the election held April 3, 1877, 266 votes were cast (there are about 300 voters in the town), and 637 children between four and twenty years. During the twenty-nine years that the town has been organized, nine different persons have served as chairmen. Wm. Bardsley has served nine years; R. Ford has served four years; N. Martin has served three years;

D. Ford has served six years, and was reëlected April 3, 1877. Julius Weisenbom (now of Black Earth), was elected town clerk three years consecutively. Thos. Binegal, three years consecutively; E. Harding, twelve years consecutively; B. Esser, three years consecutively; J. Esser, three years consecutively.

During the late war the town of Springfield furnished its entire quota of soldiers for the United States army. Among those entering the army, there were between fifty and sixty residents of the town. The following are the names of those who went from the town, so far as ascertained: Lieut. J. B. Hillier, M. Palmer,[1] Lieut. C. Northrop,[1] G. Bealer,[1] Sergt. J. E. Bardsley, C. Ford, Corp. J. W. Hillier,[2] St. Clair Z. Jones, Corp. M. Queenen,[2] A. K. Pierce, H. Young,[2] Sergt. C. Pierce, W. Young,[3] J. Jones, D. Young,[1] Coval Jones, R. Ford,[3] J. Gunther, J. Ford, Wm. Jones,[1] R. Bonner,[4] J. Camm, Wm. Gillett, — Faumburg, R. Gillett, T. A. Perry,[1] S. Slack, Sergt. J. Dinsmore, Wm. Klausman, D. Dinsmore, G. S. Martin, G. S. Martin, Jr.,[2] H. Martin, R. Lent, A. Goudy,[1] A. Quest, Ferd. Pape, — Cameron, L. P. Flagler,[1] J. Halter,[1] Abram Ackerson, Anton Brandt, J. Stone, C. Howe, Wm. Howard, — Kline, — Wagner, J. Sebreight, Wm. Marden, P. Shaffhausen, O. Hayes, — Lifermon, W. Johnson, D. Perry.[1]

The Young family deserve especial mention. Mr. Young sent three sons to the army. Wesley was killed in battle, Daniel died in hospital, and Horton

[1] Died. [2] Wounded. [3] Killed. [4] Drowned.

had both arms shot off, but recovering, returned home and is still living.

Springfield raised during the years 1863–5, twenty-three thousand five hundred dollars tax for soldiers' bounty; this sum was considerably increased by private subscriptions, so that in all it probably amounted to near thirty thousand dollars.

In the neighborhood known as Fordville, there is a library containing four hundred volumes. This library was first started in 1858, at a cost of about five hundred dollars; one hundred dollars of this amount was donated in money and books by persons outside of the neighborhood. The principal persons in organizing this library were the Fords, Groves, Poyners and Mr. Leitch. The officers at present are: D. Ford, president; C. Poyner, secretary; C. R. Chipman, treasurer; A. Ford, librarian. The Library Association holds weekly meetings, and has had a valuable influence in the community.

Mr. David Ford has represented the 3d assembly district in the state legislature two terms.

Mr. Bernard Esser was elected clerk of the circuit court in 1874, and reëlected in 1876.

The principal productions of the town for several years have been wheat, corn and oats; but during the last few years more attention has been given to stock raising, and a more general plan of farming has been adopted.

The soil compares favorably with the soil of any town in Dane county.

Mr. Geo. Kingsley built a cheese factory on section 12, and carries on its manufacture.

The first market for the early settlers was Milwaukee, and the usual conveyance ox teams. The price obtained for wheat was twenty-five cents, oats ten cents per bushel, and the time occupied in making a trip about two weeks, if they had good success. If they brought back freight for the merchants in Madison they did pretty well; but if not, they frequently came back in debt. The markets now are good. The center of the town is about four and a half miles from Middleton Station, on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, and about six miles from Waunakee, on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. These are both good markets for produce of all kinds.

By the increase of wealth and comfort, log houses have given place to good substantial frame, stone and brick structures; and in many places during the last few years, large and convenient barns have been built, showing that a large number of citizens have been successful in accumulating considerable property.

School and church privileges are abundant, so that none need be ignorant for want of the one, nor wicked for the lack of the other.

The first school house built in the town was a log building, on sec. 12, known as Johnson's school house. A good frame structure now stands in its stead. There are now eleven school and joint school districts, and nine school houses. There are also two German schools.

There are three churches: St. Peter's, on sec. 7; St. Martin's, on sec. 27; Springfield M. E. Church, sec. 22. Rev. Mr. Hoyt preaches the first Sabbath in each month in the school house, on sec. 12.

Ashton Lodge, No. 83, I. O. of G. T., has a good convenient hall on the Sauk road near the centre of the town. The lodge was instituted May 12, 1871, and meets regularly on Friday evening of each week.

At Hyer's Corners is a good hotel, with D. R. Hyer as proprietor, who cheerfully attends to the wants of the traveling public. J. Stebbins keeps a store there, and is also engaged in wagon making, while C. Vosen has a blacksmith shop.

At Springfield Corners, Louis Martini keeps a good store, and does a thriving business. H. Bohl has a blacksmith shop. Jacob Gross keeps a store on the road leading from Springfield Corners to Hyer's Corners. F. La Fay has a smithey at Ashton P. O. and is a good workman. There are four saloons in the town: John Esser, on sec. 27; C. Dresen, Ashton P. O.; Michel Karls, on section 7; and John Michels, also on section 7.

# STOUGHTON.

BY GEORGE W. CURRIER.

Origin and Growth. — In surveying a new country, members of the surveying party are ever on the alert for mining lands, water privileges, and other natural properties which may at some future time tend to locate towns. It is said that during the survey of this territory some of the men, high in official position, made arrangements with the party to select some of the best water powers, and that, in this way and for this reason, Daniel Webster obtained possession of a large portion of the present site of Stoughton. Mr. Luke Stoughton, one of the pioneers of Wisconsin, in his travels over the country, had long noted the water power here, and the advantages which this section offered for the location of a village. In 1847, he concluded a purchase from Daniel Webster of a large tract of land, including the site of the village. He immediately set to work to improve it, erecting a sawmill that is now occupied by Mr. Mandt, and a store upon the present site of Williams' Block. The village was soon laid out, and inducements were offered for people to settle. Mr. Alvin West was the first person who brought a family here. He built a residence where the Higbee House now stands, and by November, 1847, they were snugly en-

sconced therein. Their house being opened to the public, the genial, hospitable manner of the host and hostess, together with the notableness of the latter as housekeeper, soon made it a favorite with the traveling public. The winter of 1847 passed away, and the spring opened hopefully. As early as was practicable, other houses clustered around the nucleus formed the year before. During this summer, Mr. Colten and Mr. Westcott put up the brick building that still stands by the upper bridge, and soon after purchased a residence not far from it. This residence is associated, in the minds of the first settlers, with many social gatherings; the inspiration of such occasions usually being a violin — the pioneers' inseparable friend. In 1850, Mr. Stoughton put up a small gristmill to supply the needs of the people, and afterwards built a larger one. About this time a school house was erected, and Miss Fannie Duncan, who had already opened a school in a small building on the east side of the river, moved into the new building when completed. Another public house was opened by Mr. H. Holley (the building having been erected by Mr. C. Roby), under whose genial proprietorship it figured as the Crockett House. It afterwards took on the more euphonious name of Yahara Hotel, thus rescuing the Indian name of the river, near whose bank it stood, from oblivion. The prospect of a railroad at this time (which was completed to this point in 1856) gave an impetus to the growth of the little village. Men of capital and business talent were at-

tracted to the place, who, by their energy and enterprise, materially added to the building up of the town. Mr. West finding his accommodations for the public too limited, in 1853, commenced and completed a commodious brick hotel. In 1855, Dr. W. W. Blackman and Mr. J. R. Boyce erected a brick building, from whence they dispensed drugs for many years. The doctor practiced medicine for a long time, and was accounted very skillful. Both of these gentlemen built fine residences, which are still ornaments to the village. In the midst of this high tide of progress, a disaster befell the little village which materially injured its prosperity. The new gristmill which Mr. S. had just completed was undermined by water-rats and fell — a complete wreck. Mr. S., being in feeble health, felt unequal to the task of rebuilding; consequently he sold the mill site to Mr. Ray Jenkins, who immediately commenced the work of reconstruction.

From that time until the present, the growth of the village has been so rapid that our space forbids us to mention only a few of the more notable features. The Opera House, built by Mr. Nelson Williams, is a fine structure and an ornament to the town. It contains one of the best halls in this section. In 1876, Mr. O. M. Turner fenced and cleared a beautiful park east of the depot, and built a fine race course. Many of the oldest settlers of this section still live in and around the village. Messrs. Nelson and Isham still live in the town, Mr. Utter in Rutland, and Mr.

Opera House, Stoughton.

Emerson in the village The future prospects for the village are good, and more building is being done this year than for some time previous. A grain elevator and tobacco warehouse are to be built this spring.

Scenery. — Stoughton is often called a New England village, and in many respects it resembles one. Situated on high rolling ground, in the bend of the Catfish, or Yahara river, it truly has a beautiful site. The country around combines some of the natural beauty of New England, with the fine prairies of Southern Wisconsin.

First, or Kegonsa Lake, is situated north of the village, and is a popular resort in warm weather. It is one of the prettiest sheets of water in the state. Beautiful maple and oak groves line the banks, and the waters abound in finny inhabitants. A large steamer is now in proceess of building in Pittsburg, Pa., and will be put upon the lake this season. The owner is Mr. J. I. Williams, a wealthy citizen of that place, who owns a fine farm by the lake. Summer travelers will find here plenty of outdoor amusements, a healthful climate, good accommodations and cheap rates.

Exports and Imports. — Stoughton is surrounded by a fine farming country, and the exports from here consist of ordinary farm produce, grain, stock, hay, potatoes, tobacco, and articles manufactured here. Besides the common articles imported into western towns, Messrs. Melaas, Steenerson & Co. have established here an agency for the famous Lofoten Cod

Liver Oil. They import direct from Norway large quantities of this medicine, and ship it to all parts of the United States. It has a reputation unexcelled by any oil of this kind in the world, and on account of its freshness, purity and comparatively pleasant taste, many physicians will use no other.

Manufactures. — At the head of the list of manufacturers must be placed Mr. T. G. Mandt. About twelve years ago, he commenced work here on an anvil. By constant perseverance and unflagging energy he is now proprietor of an extensive factory employing about eighty men, and furnished with all the modern machinery for building carriages and farm wagons, cutters and heavy sleighs of every description. Messrs. Norris & Beattie are the present owners of the mill property, and annually manufacture large quantities of flour for eastern markets. There are two cigar factories, the more extensive run by Mr. J. S. Hutson, and the other by Mr. J. W. P. Lusk. Messrs. Matthews and Kling manufacture thousands of brooms yearly, which they ship to the northern part of the state. Mr. Knute Olson supplies this section with harnesses, and has sent several shipments to Norway. In addition, we may say that this village offers many inducements to manufacturers. There is yet a large amount of water power not utilized; the location is good; labor cheap, and opportunities for transportation excellent.

Newspapers. — The first paper published in Stoughton was the *Independent*, by Henry J. Walker, and

WAGON & CARRIAGE WORKS
T.C. MANDT, STOUGHTON, WIS.

## BUSINESS INTERESTS OF STOUGHTON.

THE Village of Stoughton is the second commercial mart in the county, and as an index to the general business interests, we publish the following list showing the leading merchants and business men of the place:

Stoughton State Bank, O. M. Turner, Pres., Frank Leland, Vice Pres.; A. L. Hollo, Physician and Surgeon; L. K. Luse, Attorney-at-Law; T. W. Evans, Physician and Surgeon; L. D. Clark, Homœopathic Physician and Surgeon; Dr. A. P. Lusk, Dentist; D. D. Camp, Jeweler; Amos Flyte, Wagons and Carriages; Mrs. J. M. Hibbard, Millinery; H. W. Hole, Dry Goods; H. J. Rhodes, Barber; Sarbacker & Hurd, Harness Makers; T. A. Thorenson, Barber; Rothe & Gunderson, Hardware; O. N. Falks, Druggist; S. H. Severson & Co., Lumber; O. O. Melaas, Druggist; K. Olson & Co., Harness Makers; Mrs. Cid. C. Isham, Ladies' Furnishing Goods; A. T. Higbee, Hotel Keeper and Livery; T. G. Mandt, Wagons and Carriages; Johnson & Melaas, Clothing; Norris & Beattie, Stoughton Mill; Hans H. Swan, Boots and Shoes; John Brickson, Grocer; N. Jensen, Boots and Shoes; Currier & Parish, Stoughton "Courier;" W. H. Dumond, Restaurant; W. D. Potter, General Merchandise; Hibbard & Camp, Variety Store; Wm. H. Leedle, Clerk of Grange Store; J. D. Baker, Express Agent; Osman Halvorsen, Saloon; N. Swager, Tinsmith; W. A. Ferman, Photographer; S. A. Stenerson, Clerk; N. Anderson, General Merchandise; A. Nelson, Clerk; K. Olson, Tailor; A. E. McMannus, Confectionery; G. W. Wood & Co., General Merchandise; O. Peterson, Bakery; C. Larson, Wagon and Plow Factory; J. H. Laughlin, Telegraph Operator; J. Erickson, Wagons and Carriages; Gunder Anderson, Saloon; F. Frankton, ——; P. Peterson, Cutter; Matthews & Kling, Broom Makers; E. E. Warner, Carpenter; N. C. Nelson, Hotel; O. F. Tipple, Livery; W. H. Miller, ——; T. Carlsen, Tobacco Dealer; Ella Brown, Hotel Keeper.

was started early in the summer of 1857. He continued the publication until the fall of the same year, when he sold to W. A. Giles, who changed the name to the *Wisconsin Signal*, and run it until the spring of 1859, when he removed the press and printing material to Prairie du Chien. The same summer L. W. Powell, who was publishing a paper at Brodhead, moved his office to Stoughton and commenced issuing the *Stoughton Reporter*. In 1863, I. A. Hoxie, now of Evansville, entered into partnership with Mr. Powell, but only continued six months. Soon after Mr. Frank Allen bought a half interest. For over ten years the name was not changed. Mr. Allen, Mr. C. D. Wells, and finally Mr. A. C. Croft, owned the office and published the paper. Mr. Croft sold the press and material in 1874, and Mr. Frank Allen bought new stock and commenced printing the *Signal*. Early in 1876, Geo. W. Currier purchased half of the office and changed the name to the *Stoughton Courier*, which was published by Kling & Currier until May, 1877, when Mr. C. E. Parish purchased the interest of Mr. Kling.

Dunkirk Township, of which Stoughton is situated in the northwest corner, is in the southeastern part of the county, and known as township 5 north, of range 11 east. It is one of the original towns in the organization of the county in 1846. The first settler was John Nelson, a Norwegian, in 1843, and afterwards came John Wheeler, — Jaymes, Jesse Utter, Chancey Isham, S. H. Roys, Richard Palmer, Campbell

and William Saunders, John Estes, Levi Farnham, Joseph Vroman, Joseph Cannon, and John Blake. The first town meeting was held at the house of Mr. Lyons, and Abner Barlow was elected first supervisor.

The Yahara, or Catfish, enters the town on section 4, in the north, and makes a circuitous bend through eleven sections, in a south and southeasterly direction, leaving the town on section 35 and passing into the towns of Fulton and Porter, in Rock county, then into Rock river. Its bank exhibits many beautiful landscapes, and affords excellent opportunities for hunting and fishing, while it furnishes very superior waterpower, some of which is yet unused.

The land is very rich and productive, consisting of oak openings, prairie and marsh — the marsh land being near the Catfish, in the northern part of the town.

The village of Dunkirk, three miles from Stoughton, is a small place on the edge of the Catfish, on section 21, and has a grist mill and blacksmith shop. In 1837, Alex. F. Pratt, now of Waukesha, in company with Augustus Story, started for the mining regions, and passing from Waukesha (then Prairie village), to Fort Atkinson, and thence to the Catfish, encamped on the present site of the village, where they were so beset with wolves till morning, that they were necessitated to keep their fire replenished with wood to prevent their being attacked, as they were both numerous and savage, and kept close watch of them.

There is a large Norwegian settlement in the northern part of the town.

Churches. — In so limited space, we are unable to

give much of the history of the seven churches now standing in this place. For several years, meetings were held in the old school-house. Father Sewell, as he was familiarly called, who then resided in the town of Porter, came very often, and ministers of other denominations assisted him in filling the pulpit. After the schoolhouse became unfit for use, meetings were held in a hall over Mr. J. R. Boyce's drug store; and sometimes, when the key was missing, good Mrs. Sewell heard the children recite their scripture lessons on the stairs. In 1858 the Universalist church was erected, and dedicated the summer following. The Baptist church was built next in 1861. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. E. J. Goodspeed, then of Janesville. The Congregational church was built in 1863, and dedicated on the last day of that year; sermon by the Rev. M. P. Kinney of Janesville. The Methodist church, in 1867; sermon by Rev. Col. Fallows. The first Norwegian Lutheran church was built in 1867, Rev. M. Falch Gjertsen, pastor, and the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Christ Church, in 1875, Rev. C. M. Hvistendahl, pastor; and the Catholic church in 1868. Since the death of Father Sewell, who, during his life and long residence in Stoughton, did noble work for Christ and his religion and for the advancement of all good causes, the Congregational church has been without a regular pastor. Rev. Mr. Hendricks was the last pastor of the Baptist church. Rev. Mr. Garfield of Jefferson, fills the Universalist pulpit; Rev. C. E. Goldthorpe, the Methodist; Rev. M. F. Gjertsen, the Lutheran; Rev. C. M. Hvis-

tendahl, the Lutheran Christ. Services in the Catholic church are conducted by Father Butler, of Edgerton.

Hotels. — There are several hotels. The Higbee House, kept by A. T. Higbee, is really a first class house; and boarders and transient guests receive good attention. The National is run and patronized largely by Scandinavians.

Schools. — From the little old school-house on the west side of the river, as a beginning, there now is a fine three-story brick building, standing on an eminence east of the river, and commanding one of the finest views to be found in this section. This building was formally opened in December, 1862, with prayer by Rev. R. Sewell; an address by the state superintendent, Hon. J. L. Pickard, and remarks by county superintendent Barlow and others, interspersed with band music and choir singing. This being found inadequate to meet the demands of the fast increasing population, a new building, even larger than the present one, is now in process of erection on the same grounds. When finished, the two buildings will accommodate five hundred students. A free high school has been established under the state law of 1875. The teachers now in charge of the several departments are as follows: George W. Currier, principal of High School; Marilla Douglass, teacher, Grammar Department; Mary E. Vedder, teacher, Intermediate Department; Annie Wyman, teacher, Primary Department. The following named gentlemen constitute the very efficient school board: W. D. Potter, clerk; M. Johnson, treasurer; Dr. L. D. Clark, director.

## CHRISTIANA.

BY CHAS. N. BROWN AND OTHERS.

This town is the second from the southern, and immediately upon the eastern boundary of the county, occupying the whole of township 6 north, range 12 east. It was named, we believe, at the suggestion of the early Norwegian settlers, in honor of the capital of their native country, and was set off from Albion, which bounds it on the south, and organized as a separate town, May 6, 1847.

The town was at first attached to the town of Albion for township system of government, and it was organized as a separate town, and elected its own town officers, only a short time before Wisconsin became a state. The first annual town election held after Wisconsin had entered into the family of states, was in the spring of 1849, and the town board then elected were: Randolph Brown as chairman, with Nathan G. Van Horn and Daniel Davidson as assistant supervisors, and Gabriel Bjornson as town clerk. The town has, since the above time, furnished four members for the legislature, and two county officers, as follows: Gabriel Bjornson was elected member of assembly in the year 1850; Daniel B. Crandall was next elected member of assembly in the year 1857; William D. Potter was elected member of assembly

in 1865, and John E. Johnson in the year 1868. Gabriel Bjornson was next elected clerk of the county board of supervisors in the year 1852, and reëlected in 1854. And Charles Cornelinson was elected register of deeds in the year 1856. Of the above named persons only John E. Johnson is now residing here; Randolph Brown, Charles Cornelinson and Daniel B. Crandall being dead. Daniel Davidson is residing somewhere in California; William D. Potter residing in Stoughton, in this county, and Gabriel Bjornson now a resident of Madison. The residence of Nathan G. Van Horn is unknown.

Of the early settlers at Utica, S. W. Coon and W. H. H. Coon are yet residing there, both of whom, in their honorable old age, enjoy the confidence and respect of the community of which they are members.

There are in this town three small villages, the largest of which is Cambridge, situated in the northeastern part upon Koshkonong creek, and described in the next chapter. Clinton, the next in size, is situated upon the same stream, in the eastern part, and Utica, the smallest, which, in fact, is so small that it hardly lays claim to the title of village, and is upon no stream at all, lies in the western part. The population of the town in 1875, was nearly 1,700, the larger proportion of which are foreigners, of whom nearly all are Norwegians.

The surface, which is gently undulating, is diversified with prairie and oak-openings, and to the eye of a farmer, this is one of the most beautiful towns in

the county. These oak openings were so named from the fact that the annual burning over of the county by Indian tribes kept the timber so entirely free from underbrush, that a team could be easily driven through it in any direction; it was this openness, contrasted with the denseness of forests of other states, that suggested the name "openings." As soon, however, as the annual fires ceased, and the original timber was cut off, there sprang up the dense second-growth which is familiar to all, and which is now, though we think improperly, called oak-openings.

Koshkonong prairie is nearly all included within its boundaries, lying in the southern, central, and western portions of it. The surface of this prairie is moderately rolling, and its soil, for fertility, is unsurpassed by any in the state, almost incredible stories being told of the yields of wheat upon it, before the success of that crop was sadly interfered with by the chinch bug. This prairie is named after Koshkonong lake, which touches the extreme southeastern corner of the county, the banks of which were favorite hunting and camping grounds of the Sacs and Foxes, as the remains of their cornfields, still faintly visible, testify, and its name, in the Indian tongue, is said to signify, "The lake we live on."

Koshkonong creek is the most important stream, and enters the town somewhat south of the northeastern corner, flows through the eastern tier of sections, and leaves it very near the southeastern corner. As this stream is quite rapid, it affords first

class facilities for milling purposes, there being two grist mills in the town, one at Cambridge and another at Clinton, the latter having one of the finest water powers in this part of the state, and doing a large custom and flouring business.

The other streams are Mud creek in the north, and Saunders' creek in the south, but they are of little importance. Along the banks of these streams the surface is more broken and less favorable for agricultural purposes, and in some places there are large marshes, some of which, in the days of the first settlers, were so wet as to be nearly valueless, but which are now dry enough to furnish pasturage or excellent hay.

Previous to its settlement, this was a favorite hunting ground with the settlers in adjoining towns. Deer were then very plenty, and one of the favorite methods of hunting them in winter, was to get what was called a "drive" on them. Taking advantage of their curiosity, and knowing they could be easily approached with a team, several men in a sleigh followed their trail until within rifle shot, when the team was turned and driven around the deer, the men jumping out behind trees at convenient intervals. As soon as they were well surrounded the firing commenced, and the deer were driven from one side of the circle to the other, a large number frequently being killed before the herd succeeded in making its escape. This was also a favorite hunting ground of the Indians, but the trail which connected Koshkonong and First lakes,

only slight traces of which are now to be found, is about the only trace of their occupancy which they have left. This trail entered the limits of the town near the southeastern corner, ran a little to the south of the Lutheran church, crossed the farms of Thos. Carpenter, Nils Torgerson, John E. Johnson and Rev. J. A. Ottesen; thence bending slightly to the south, it led to the large spring on Samuel Coon's farm, which was one of their favorite stopping places. At the time of the Black Hawk war there were no settlers in this town, and probably no fighting, although Black Hawk and his warriors, in their retreat from the Rock to the Wisconsin river, in the early part of July, 1832, crossed the northern part of the town, and encamped for some time near Koshkonong creek. An account of his sufferings at this place will be found in the succeeding chapter.

Wm. M. Mayhew was the first settler of the town, and located on section 23, in 1837. He was a Southerner by birth, and, previous to the great financial panic of that year, was a prominent merchant in Milwaukee. Losing his property at this time, he came to this town, and built a log house, on what is now the land of Geo. Odell, at the foot of quite a steep bluff, where for many years he kept a tavern. This was one of the regular stopping places of the teamsters drawing lead from the mines near the Blue Mounds to Milwaukee. Old settlers, entirely unaccustomed to the handling of lead, tell us, that to them, their wagons appeared almost empty. But, nevertheless, three or

four yoke of oxen were required to draw the wagons over the rough roads, and the shouts and curses of the teamsters as they urged their oxen up the steep ascent the other side of Mayhew's, could be heard for three-quarters of a mile around. For many years Mayhew's was a center of interest, Christiana post-office, the first, and for many years the only one in the town, being kept here, and as the nearest office was at Milton, this was the place at which nearly all the settlers in adjoining towns received their mail. Here, also, was held the first town meeting and several subsequent ones.

In 1842, a number of settlers arrived, most of them being emigrants from Norway. Prominent among these were Hellik Gunderson, Jul Gisleson, Nils Olsen Smithback, and Thosten Levorson, all of whom except the latter, are now living. This was almost the beginning of Norwegian emigration to the United States, and was induced by the glowing descriptions of the mildness of the climate, the beauty of the prairies, and the fertility of the soil, given by members of a small colony from Norway, which, a few years before, had settled in Walworth county, near the state line. This report was printed in pamphlet form, and being quite extensively circulated in Norway, was largely instrumental in giving an impetus to emigration to this country. The arrivals spoken of were only the beginning of a more extensive emigration of Norwegians to this section, and in the five years following, the greater portion of the town was settled by them.

Accustomed, in their native country, only to timbered land, these early settlers shunned the prairie, which seemed desolate and cheerless to them, but which is now considered as the more desirable land, and settled in the edges of the openings, and along the marshes.

In the fall of 1846, N. A. Perry arrived at the present site of Clinton, and erected the first house, in which he boarded the hands who were at work on the mill-dam. In the following year, the mill itself was built by Thos. and Nathan G. Van Horn. In the fall of 1848, the first store was opened by Wardner Earle, and in the fall of 1849, Christiana postoffice was removed from Mayhew's to this place. Not many years after its settlement a brewery was established in this place by one Lewis, but after a few years its place was taken by a distillery, built by Mr. Jacobson, which, however, has not been in operation for some years. The present proprietors of the Christiana mills are O. H. Lee & Co., and the present merchant is C. Tollefson, who is one of the most prominent citizens of the place, and who is doing quite an extensive business.

The first settlers at Utica were Samuel Head and S. H. Coon, who arrived in December, 1845, and who immediately built the first house, which was a one-story log affair (12x16) with a shed roof. In this they wintered, and in the following spring built an addition of equal size, making a gable roof. In 1846, Hampton Crandall, W. H. H. Coon and Randolph

Brown arrived, and in a short time this portion of the town was settled, principally by people from central New York. These settlers, who, excepting Mr. Mayhew, were the first Americans in the town, instead of locating, as most of the Norwegians had done, in the openings, nearly all settled on the prairie. The first store in Utica, which was of gravel, was opened in 1851 by Le Roy Crandall, now of Lawrence, Kansas, and here soon after the removal of Christiana postoffice from Mayhew's to Clinton, Utica postoffice, named in honor of Utica, New York, was established. The old gravel store was taken down in 1872 and replaced by a larger one of wood, now owned by W. H. H. Coon. This made the second store in the place, one having been erected by F. E. Olsen in 1869.

As has been before mentioned, to Clinton belongs the distinction of being the place in which the first and only distillery in the town was started, and to Utica, we believe, belongs the honor of being the starting point of temperance reform in this section. Soon after the organization of the town, a town meeting was being held at this place, in the old gravel school house, still standing but unused. Some of the candidates from the eastern portion of the town had furnished a keg of whisky, which was to serve the double purpose of catching votes and enlivening the occasion generally. The dispensers of this beverage improvised a bar-room in the end of a shed belonging to one of the neighboring settlers, and were having an exceedingly jolly time, when the owner of the

AGRICULTURE.
From Mitchell's New School Geography.

shed came in, and embracing a moment when all were busily drinking, seized the keg, and, carrying it into the middle of the road, put a heavy fence rail through it, greatly to the damage of the whisky, and the disgust of the imbibers.

The early settlers endured many hardships, and often carried on their agricultural operations in the most primitive manner. The section of a large round tree, usually shod with iron, often formed the wheels of their carts or wagons, and until the introduction of threshing machines in 1848, the prevailing mode of threshing was indentical with that which has been practiced in Oriental countries for the last three thousand years. A large dry spot of ground was cleared off evenly, and packed as hard as possible. Upon this the grain was placed to the depth of a foot or more, with the heads in, and five or six yoke of oxen were driven over it until the grain was all trodden out. The straw was then thrown off with forks, and the grain separated from the chaff with fanning mills. The first threshing machines, introduced at the date mentioned, were without separators, and were an improvement upon the method described in little else than speed and cleanliness. To sell their grain, a trip to Milwaukee, which was then their only market, was necessary, and which usually occupied a week, the wheat bringing from thirty to fifty cents, and in some instances even less.

The first church in the town was of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, and was organized in 1844,

with Rev. Mr. Dietrichsen as pastor. The same year a log church was built by this society on section 27, which was superseded in 1858, by a neat and commodious building of stone. During the first pastorate, one of the members, who was under discipline, made his appearance at church services one Sunday, and was peremptorily ordered out. He declined to leave, when the militant clergyman ordered some of the members to throw him out of doors by main strength. Feeling himself seriously aggrieved, he sued the pastor before Justice David Stillman, at Albion Center. His attorney was Bjorn Anderson, father of Prof. R. B. Anderson, of the University of Wisconsin. (By the way, the Professor's mother was the first white woman in the town of Albion.) The pastor pleaded his own case, but was beaten and fined five dollars. Not long after this, becoming disgusted with this country, he returned to Norway, where we hope that he conducted his pastoral affairs so successfully, that from a clergyman militant, he became a clergyman triumphant. Mr. Dietrichsen was succeeded in 1850, by Rev. A. C. Preus, and he in 1860, by Rev. J. A. Ottesen, the present pastor, who is widely and favorably known among his countrymen in this and adjoining states.

In addition to the church already mentioned, there are three other church organizations; the Methodist and Presbyterian, located at Cambridge, and which are mentioned in the chapter following, and the Seventh-Day Baptists, which are located near Utica. This

church was organized in 1850, with Rev. Z. Campbell as pastor, and has a very neat and pleasantly located house which was built in 1866. The present pastor, Rev. Geo. W. Burdick, is a young man of much promise.

In the early days of the town, before newspapers were so generally taken by farmers, it was necessary for politicians and candidates for office to take greater pains to look up their country friends, and enlist them in their behalf, than at present. Intent upon looking up their friends, Judge J. G. Knapp and Mr. Wilcox, the former being candidate for district attorney, and the latter for state senator, came into the town, and after a meeting at which they spoke, put up for the night with one of the most prominent citizens in the vicinity. As the house was small, and pretty well filled already, they occupied a bed belonging to a young man who was expected to be absent for the night. Rather late the next morning, a brother of the gentleman with whom they went home, supposing that the usual occupant of the bed had returned in the night, and thinking it was high time he was awake, went into the room, and seeing an empty meal bag, took it and laid it over the heads of the candidates very smartly several times. We are told that their astonishment at being thus suddenly and rudely wakened from a sound sleep, was only equaled by his consternation upon seeing that he was belaboring a couple of strange gentlemen from Madison; indeed, even now, though twenty-five years have elapsed, he

recalls very vividly his fright when he beheld Mr. Wilcox's nightcap rising from among the bedclothes.

The first public school was kept by Mrs. Wm. Mayhew, at her husband's tavern, in the winter of 1845–6. The first school house, which was a rough log structure, was built very soon after on section 10, and which remained standing until within a few years. From these small beginnings in educational matters, we have achieved very satisfactory results. We have now ten school houses in the town, the majority being almost new, those of districts No. 2, 5 and 7 being more than usually elegant buildings of brick, well furnished. District number 5 is in Cambridge, and is a commodious two story house, and is kept as a graded school.

In common with nearly all the towns in the vicinity, until within a few years, the principal crop has been wheat, but since its yield has been so seriously affected by the chinch-bug and other causes, many of our best farmers have engaged more extensively in the raising of live stock, and as a consequence, have largely increased the area of their corn fields. In 1876, the acreage of the various crops was as follows: Timothy or clover, 1,859; oats, 1,922: wheat, 2,155; corn, 3,457; barley, 1,166.

Previous to 1871, but a small amount of tobacco was grown in the town, but as those who had cultivated it found the soil adapted to it, and as it was at this time bringing a high price, many farmers engaged extensively in its culture. The subsequent de-

cline in prices, consequent upon over production, drove many to abandon it, and though not now so extensively grown as a few years previous, its culture is still quite an important branch of agricultural industry, the area grown in 1876 being 328 acres.

## CAMBRIDGE.

BY HON. GEO. DOW AND A. B. CARPENTER.

Cambridge village is situated on the extreme eastern part of the county, in the township of Christiana, and about twenty-four miles southeast of Madison. It is beautifully situated on both sides of the Koskonong creek, with picturesque surrounding of oak openings and prairie lands. Immediately south of the village the country was very marshy, but now sufficiently improved to be used for pasturage; though in the early settlement of the town and before a road was made through, it was almost impassible in wet weather, and here it is said Black Hawk and his people took refuge in 1832, after passing through Fort Atkinson, on his way to the Mississippi. On the dry spots between Cambridge and Clinton, he and his people could camp safe and dry, while the difficulty of access precluded any possibility of his being molested by the troops. Here, Black Hawk says, his sufferings were very great, as there was but very little game or fish to be had, and his people were obliged to dig roots and bark the trees to satisfy their hunger, many of the old people dying from actual want. The marching and countermarching of the troops deceived them so much that it deterred the young men from separating to hunt or fish, although abundance of both

game and fish were to be found immediately outside of their surroundings. Since these times, considerable change has taken place in the character of the land in the vicinity of Cambridge, as also in other parts of our county, the results of cultivation and the extensive destruction of forest trees without supplying their place with other timber. Many of the early settlers can remember localities where were rapid flowing streams, that are now highly cultivated fields.

In 1847, Joseph Keyes (father of E. W. Keyes, of political fame), Abel Keyes, and A. B. Carpenter, now of Beloit, purchased the water power and land forming the village, and surveyed and laid it out in July of the same year, and, early in the following fall, built the first dwelling house. During the same year they built the inevitable adjunct of an American village, a saw and grist mill, together with a store for the sale of merchandise.

The same year the Hon. Geo. Dow and Mr. Wheeler built a hotel (the Cambridge House), and another store, and there also were several trades establishments. In 1856 Mr. Dow brought a carding machine into the village for the preparing of wool.

At the close of the first year, the village grew so rapidly, and daily receiving additions, that it numbered about 500 inhabitants, and celebrated its anniversary with that of the nation's on July 4th, 1848, on which occasion there were delegates from Madison, Lake Mills, Jefferson, Fort Atkinson and other adjoining towns, numbering about 3,000 persons. The proces-

sion formed in front of the Cambridge House, and was preceded to the stand by the Cambridge Rifle Company and the Madison Brass Band. Prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. Cargen, the Declaration read by Wm. Welch, Esq., of Madison, and the oration by Dr. L. Ravella Humphrey, of Beloit.

The first store in the village was kept by A. B. Carpenter and Norman Dutcher, under the firm name of A. B. Carpenter & Co. The upper part of the store was used as a dwelling house, and access obtained by a ladder which, for better protection, was swung up at night. For several years the Indians were rather troublesome from their begging propensities, but were never hostile except in some of their drunken carousals, when it was then deemed unsafe to either encounter or have them near the village.

When Cambridge was first laid out, the surrounding land was still unentered, and could be purchased at government figures, and Mr. A. B. Carpenter at that time entered 1,000 acres, which has proved to be among the richest and most fertile lands in the state. The laying out of the village was done under an assurance from the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad that they would pass through there; a promise which they never kept, but toward which the early settlers spent large amounts of money in expectation of their so doing. Wheat in those days brought 25 cents a bushel, and oats 10 cents, and had to be marketed in Milwaukee, where merchandise was brought back in exchange, sometimes packed in flour barrels,

that cost at that time 55 cents each, empty, and were again returned full of flour.

In 1864, Hon. George Dow built a woolen mill, and a large amount of superior woolen goods have been manufactured there, and sold throughout both the county and state. In 1874, a cheese factory was also started by Mr. Dow, and has met with merited success.

The scenery around Cambridge is beautifully diversified by prairie, woodlands, cultivated farms and small lakes, the principal one of which is Ripley, or Dow's Lake. It is of considerable depth, and embraces a circuit of four miles in circumference; its water pure and clear as crystal, and, together with the other lakes abounding in the numerous varieties of fish to be found in the lakes around Madison, as also all kinds of game, in fact, the country around Cambridge was noted at one time as the hunter's paradise. Mr. Dow recollects seeing as many as 200 deer in a drove, and often 75 to 100.

There are two churches in the village, one Methodist and one Presbyterian. In early times, the people attended church in an old log cabin; and for want of better, sat on fence boards laid across stakes of wood. The Methodist church was organized in 1848, and the present pastor is Rev. Mr. Hansen. The Presbyterian Church in 1847, and its present pastor, the Rev. John Patterson.

The village is also the residence of the celebrated surgeon, Dr. J. C. Dundas, whose reputation as one of

the most skillful surgeons, is well and widely known throughout all the northwest. He studied his profession in Europe among the universities of England, Holland, Germany, Russia and Norway, and entered the Holland service as a surgeon, was for over two years in that capacity in the empires of China and Japan. Dr. L. C. Clark is also a physician and surgeon in the village, with a good wide practice throughout the township and those adjoining, where he is highly esteemed for his professional ability and courtesy.

The present population of Cambridge is about 400 inhabitants, and the business is principally confined to supplying the wants of the surrounding country. Among those engaged in business are the following: S. H. Butler, cabinetmaker; Messrs. George Dow & Son, commission merchants; Thomas Overson, hardware dealer; A. H. Krogh, manufacturer of artificial limbs; Thomas Slagg, drugs and groceries; James T. Gilbert & Brother, hotel keepers; Olson & Hodges, merchants; J. C. Dundas, physician and surgeon; L. C. Clark, physician and surgeon; Hans Anderson, boot and shoe maker; John Johnson, tailor; P. A. England, and Samuel Irwin, blacksmiths; T. N. Save, boot and shoe maker, Hovey, Bros. & Co., merchants; and David Schoe, manufacturer of agricultural machinery.

## PLEASANT SPRINGS.

BY A. R. AMES, ESQ.

The town of Pleasant Springs, about twelve miles southeast from Madison, is bounded on the north by Cottage Grove; on the east by Christiana; on the south by Dunkirk, and on the west by Dunn. In the government surveys, it is designated as township six north, range eleven east of the fourth principal meridian.

The first town meeting was held at the house of John Patterson, April 4, 1848. Only twenty votes were cast, and the following named were declared duly elected: *Supervisors* — Daniel Wheeler, Chairman, John Patterson, John Ketcham. *Clerk* — John Sunderman. *Justice of the Peace* — Daniel Wheeler. *Commissioners of Highways* — John S. Dailey, Peter S. Markham, Archibald Griffith. *School Commissioners* — John Sunderman, Archibald Griffith, Jacob Stombough. *Assessors* — John Patterson, Robert McComb. *Treasurer* — Winard Dingman. *Constable* — Ezra Hortan. *Fence Viewers* — Jacob Waldruf, Jacob Patterson. Among other early settlers were K. H. Roe, A. Seaverson, K. Kittleson, K. A. Juve, K. A. Joitel, Francis B. and John W. Ames, James Bronte, Abraham Devoe and Zina Gilbert.

Pleasant Springs received its name from a large

spring on the land of Ole Evenson, on section twenty-seven, and numerous smaller ones in different parts of the town. The first church was built where the Lutheran church now stands, on section fourteen. The first sermon preached by Pastor W. Dietrichson, under a large oak tree on A. K. Juve's farm, September 2, 1844. The first school was taught in a private house. The first school house was built on section twenty-five.

From a historical sketch of Dane county, in Harrison & Warner's Atlas, we find the following: "Abel Rasdall, one of the pioneers of the Four Lake region, was born in Barren county, Kentucky, August 15, 1815. When a young man, he went to Wisconsin and engaged in lead mining, and, in 1828, went to Galena, and assisted awhile Col. James Morrison in his mining operations at Porter's Grove, about nine miles from Blue Mounds. He soon engaged in the business of an Indian trader, locating his cabin on the eastern shore of First Lake (now in Pleasant Springs), about half a mile south of its outlet. He married a Winnebago woman, who was a real helpmate to him in the Indian trade. She sickened and died of small pox, Mr. Rasdall alone attending her, and burying her remains. He subsequently married another of the same tribe,* but when her people migrated west, she concluded to go with them, so Rasdall and his

[* This squaw had no nose, her former husband having inflicted the Indian penalty for infidelity. She always covered her face with her blanket.—PUB.]

Indian wife cut a blanket in two, each taking a part — the Indian mode of divorce. * * Galena was the point at which he obtained his goods, and where he disposed of his furs and peltry. He did service in the Black Hawk war, and was one of fourteen men who were sent forward as a scout when Gen. Dodge was pursuing the Indians from Rock river westward, before the battle of Wisconsin Heights. The party, which was commanded by Capt. Gentry, was sent forward to reconnoitre and prevent a surprise by the main body of Indians, which they were assured were but little in advance, as was afterwards proven, for this was the morning of the memorable 21st of July, near the eve of which was fought the battle of Wisconsin Heights."

About the same time Joe Pelkie and Louis Armell, French Canadian traders, were located here. They also had squaws for their wives. Josiah A. Noonan, when appointed by Judge Doty to make arrangements for a surveying party to go to Madison and meander the shores of Third and Dead Lakes, with a view of platting out the western addition to Madison, accompanied the party on horseback, and, after staying with them four days, provisions being very scarce, started for First Lake. The first night he put up with Pelkie and Armell, where he found good forage for his horse, and an abundance of potatoes and salt for himself. The next morning, with a couple of good, large potatoes in his overcoat pockets, he started for Fort Atkinson. The country he found

poorly surveyed, being unable to make his lines or courses, and was necessitated to take the wind for his guide. The old Indian trail between Fort Atkinson and First Lake crossed sections thirteen, twenty-three and twenty-four, and is, where the ground has not been disturbed, very plainly marked by a deep track on the prairie.

The surface of this town is gently undulating, consisting of prairies, oak openings, and marsh or meadow, well watered and particularly suited to grazing. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agriculture, the soil being remarkably fertile; wheat, oats, corn, barley, rye, potatoes, hay and tobacco are produced in abundance. In live stock it is one of the leading towns, having fine breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. Pleasant Springs finds market for its produce in Madison, Stoughton, McFarland, Edgerton, Fort Atkinson, Cambridge and Christiana, nearly all of which have fine milling privileges. The town has two fine churches, and six school houses, one of which was built and furnished, with apparatus and a fine large bell, at a cost of nearly $1,900. This is claimed to be the best country school house in the state, till "other counties are heard from."

From Liberty Mound, on section two (which is the highest point of land in the county except Blue Mounds), on a clear day, may be had a fine view of the lakes, Madison, Blue Mounds, the country towards Sun Prairie, Stoughton, Utica, Fort Atkinson and Jefferson.

A peculiar feature about the political history of the town is, that up to 1853, it was entirely democratic in its elections, but from that date up to the present, it has cast a decided republican vote. The change in political views was so very sudden and almost unexpected that, at the first election in the above year, only one democratic vote was cast.

It was also about this time, says Hon. John A. Johnson, or little after, that Hon. Wm. R. Taylor, since governor, was elected to the state senate over Hon. H. H. Giles. Mr. Giles was at that time railroad station agent at Stoughton, and a fierce onslaught was made upon him during the campaign by the friends of Mr. Taylor, as being the agent and representative of a great monopoly, while Mr. Taylor was the friend *per se* of the abused farmer. The democratic stump orators showed very clearly that the railroad was charging 12 cents per bushel freight on wheat from Stoughton to Milwaukee, when six cents was ample compensation, and intimated that if Taylor was elected monopoly would be destroyed, and the price of wheat would be raised at least six cents per bushel. This was a pretty strong argument, and at last one Pleasant Spring farmer determined that he would vote for Taylor, though he was a little mixed as to the position he was to be elected to, as his knowledge of English was not the most profound. The farmer marketed his wheat at Stoughton, and he had heard Taylor's name coupled with the six cents raise in wheat. When he heard of Taylor's election he

joyfully loaded his wagon with wheat and wended his way to Stoughton to realize the higher price, supposing he would find Taylor duly installed as station agent, the position which he with his vote had helped to give him. Arriving at the depot his first inquiry was as to the price of wheat, and finding it had not advanced at all, demanded an interview with Taylor. When informed that he had been basely cheated into giving a democratic vote and for such a reason, his feelings may be better imagined than described. He went home supremely disgusted with the corruptions and dishonesty of the country.

On the farm of J. I. Williams, bordering on Kegonsa, or First Lake, are a number of Indian mounds. Through the courtesy of the officials of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, passengers are landed or taken on at the "Sugar Bush," a large grove on Mr. Williams' farm. The use of this grove is freely given for camp meetings, picnics, hunting parties, etc. The lake abounds in fish, while the woods and fields are well supplied with game. The final outlet of the Four Lakes, the Yahara, has its source at the eastern point of the lake. This crosses sections twenty, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty-two and thirty-three. Mr. Williams proposes to launch a beautiful little steamer, now being built in Pittsburg, upon the lake the present season, and by whose courtesy and liberality we are enabled to present to our readers, an exquisite engraving of this elegant steamer as she

will appear on Lake Kegonsa. She is fifty-six feet long, four feet six inches deep in hull, nine feet broad, with a lower and upper deck, and is propelled by a twenty horse-power engine. She is designed by him as a pleasure craft, to be used for personal enjoyment, and to add to the interest of the place by using it for pleasure parties, picnics, etc., if the proper encouragement is given, to meet expenses of running it, and is designed to be the beginning of an investment which will convert the Sugar Bush Grove into one of the most enjoyable, as well as one of the most complete places of rational pleasure in the state, believing that Madison will wake up to a sense of "*Its best Holt*," and stretch its arm down to Kegonsa, so that while Madison may be the head source of pleasure, the Sugar Bush Grove with its peculiar charms will be indispensable to her pleasure-seekers. It is hoped that some day soon, all obstacles to a free access to all the four Lakes will be removed, and the charms of these matchless bodies of water be more fully brought forth by easy intercourse through Yahara's inviting current.

The present town officers are: *Supervisors*, William Seamonson, chairman, Elias Nichols, Ole Moe; *clerk*, E. T. Cleven; *assessor*, Lewis Iverson; *treasurer*, Gunder Edwards; *justices of peace*, Oliver Johnson, Ole A. Drotning.

## BRISTOL.

BY J. R. DAVIS, Esq.

The town of Bristol is about thirteen miles from Madison, the center being nearly midway between Madison and Columbus. It lies on the northern boundary of Dane county, which is separated by the town of Hampden from Columbia county, and is known on the government survey as township 9 north, of range 11 east. It was formerly a part of Sun Prairie.

The town was first settled by David Brazee, and shortly afterwards by R. W. Davison, M. Sweet, William W. Patrick, and William H. Clark. The first town meeting was held at the house of George C. Smith, in 1848, and W. W. Patrick was elected supervisor.

The early history of the town does not abound in as many incidents and occurrences as some of its adjoining towns, having no place of public note or resort, in consequence of its being somewhat off the usual beaten road, and thus had few of those interesting way marks which are known to enliven and amuse the traveler in those early days. Still, it was by no means deserted, commercially speaking, for one of the main traveled roads went through the southeast part — being the old state road running from Beaver Dam, through Columbus, to Madison. It was a common event in those

days to see the red man roving over its wild and beautiful prairies, whose trail went through the town leading from Horicon lake, the head waters of the Rock river, to Madison lakes. The surface of the land presents a picturesque landscape, being as a rule quite level, and about equally divided between wood and prairie. But like too many other towns in the county, its beautiful forests are being cut down too fast, and not enough of other trees set out to supply the want which we will ultimately be compelled to feel, if no proper provision is made for tree planting. There are no rivers of any size in the town, although a good stream, called Waterloo creek, which rises in the northern part of the town, and then runs southeasterly into the town of Medina, gives an excellent water power throughout most of the year, and the old *stone grist mill*, formerly built by Mr. Aiken, having been divested of its old fashioned water-wheel, and replaced with one of the improved style, by Mr. Alexander Stevens, its present owner, is doing a good, continuous business in the custom line, except durring very dry periods, when the old mill has a *vacation*, and the humming of its machinery ceases until nature causes the streams to rise, which again furnishes the *gratuitous* motive power, and sends the old mill to work

The red man of early days, who traveled his foot beaten trail leading through the southeastern part of the town, could no doubt give some graphic descriptions of a lake generally known as "Brazee's

Lake," where he employed himself in trapping and other amusements. But in this enlightened age this same lake is a bone of contention, so to speak, and a source of trouble for the white man, out of which law suits have arisen. The difficulty arising from it is somewhat of a complicated nature, so much so, that a suit to determine the real owners of it has been carried from one court to the other, and is now pending in the U. S. court. A reference to the facts, which seems to be as follows, will not be out of place here.

The lake, like some other bodies of water in this vicinity, has year by year been gradually drying up, until at the present time the husbandman's plow traverses it instead of the Indian's canoe, and which covering over 200 acres, more or less, persons owning land on its border, very naturally supposed that their farms were getting larger in proportion, while a second party comforted themselves by supposing that they were the lucky ones, and had bought the lake (now a fertile piece of land) from the government, having entered it at ten shillings per acre.

The two main traveled roads are what are known as the Columbus and the Bristol roads; the first, or the old state road, runs through the eastern part of the town, while the other runs almost due north and south from the north end of the town through to Sun Prairie, its " twin sister," and for beautiful landscapes and sightseeing, as well as the fertility of the soil and number of improved farms and farm build-

ings which lie on either side of this road and others which intersect it, is hard to beat in the county; in fact, there is no waste land in the town, and the time is not far distant when Bristol will be among the foremost in wealth and population.

Its market is Sun Prairie, generally speaking, while many draw their produce at times to Columbus.

The inhabitants of the town are chiefly Americans, Germans and Norwegians. The former having settled on the prairies in the southern half of the town, and the Germans in the timber land in the northeast part, while the latter occupy the northwest portion, which is about equally divided between prairie and wood land.

In politics the town is about equally divided, and, during the civil war, Bristol sent her regular number of soldiers to defend the government, some of whom never returned alive, but whose names will ever be held in deep remembrance by our citizens. The town has been represented in the legislature by Hon. R. W. Davison, in its early history, and by Hon. J. M. Flint in later years. Messrs. Hidden, Chipman, Davison, and Haner have been chosen to represent the town on the county board at various times.

The liquor traffic question has long since become a mooted one, and although the intelligent voters of the town have decided that those who sell liquor must pay a high license, still there are plenty of them in the northern part of the town licensed to keep saloons.

The town is well dotted with school houses, and ed-

ucational privileges are generally good. There are in the town two churches. The M. E. church, generally known as the "Bristol Church," is located on the Bristol road about 2½ miles from Sun Prairie, and is a good edifice, containing an audience room, and a basement which is used for lectures, donations, etc. It is also occupied once a week by the "Grangers," who have an excellent Grange in good running order. The other, a Catholic church, and one of the finest edifices in the county, is in the northwest part of the town, known as the "Settlement." The town cannot boast of a "Town House," though repeated attempts have been made at "Town Meetings" in that direction, but thus far they have not yet been successful.

There are in the town two stores, the largest of which is owned by John Arians, who also keeps the post office. The town was formerly one of the principal wheat growing sections in the county, but of late years the people are turning more attention to raising of stock and to dairy pursuits. There are two cheese factories that are producing an excellent quality of cheese, and well patronized. One is owned by Mr. Chipman, who keeps a large dairy himself, about a mile from Sun Prairie, on the Bristol road; the other is owned by Mr. John Arians, in the northern part of the town, and who is, as mentioned above, also proprietor of the store. There are in the town several blacksmith and wagon shops.

The town ranks in wealth and general industry with any in the county, although in common with other

places that have made wheat raising a staple production, it has felt the hard times and the effects of the "chinch bugs." But the fact that farmers are now more scrupulous in preserving the prairie chickens and other birds that have been wontonly killed off, and also raising more hay than wheat, will, in a great measure outflank this terrible pest. The farmers of Bristol are fully aware that they are the owners of their lands, and must use diligence and care to preserve their crops from injuries, and as a means toward carrying out these facts, prohibit the trespass on their lands for the hunting of prairie chicken, which they deem their friend, and the enemy of thousands of insects that prey upon their crops. A very exhilarating sport in the way of hunting, and one which would meet with a hearty response from the farmers, can be had by hunters coming in the winter and ridding the town of the wolves (which are numerous in this and adjoining towns since the "Peshtigo fire"), that kill the sheep in large numbers.

The town, like all others, has had its share of law suits, and we will relate an incident or two. A number of years ago, one of the former town treasurers deposited the town moneys in a Madison bank, which failed, and the town supposed by some to have lost it, while others thought the treasurer responsible for the whole amount. During the unsettled condition of the issue between the town and the treasurer, a bill was introduced into the legislature for his release, and which passed, and left the town to whistle for the

money. The town board were thus authorized to free him from his bonds and indebtedness.

Notwithstanding the fact that the town is known to have good, smooth level roads, and bridges, still, not long since a $5,000 suit was commenced in court by a party who complained to the supervisors of the shaky condition of one of the town bridges, and had received injuries to his horse and vehicle therefrom, so brought suit accordingly. But it puzzled both the supervisors and the complainant to find out a few days afterwards where the dangerous place was. They had driven across into a neighboring town before they discovered the offending bridge, and then only after having been shown it by an individual who claimed he thought he saw the accident. The joke was thought too good for both the town and complainant, except the unnecessary legal expense the town was put to.

Bristol without doubt has some of the best kept roads in any town, being in a great number of places shaded on both sides of the highways by beautiful trees. Thrift and energy are visible among its citizens as is witnessed by their comfortable homes, and the high class of intelligence. Let the business man and visitor see the town of Bristol before they pass judgment on Dane county, and they will be pleased with its rich soil, beauty of landscapes and general appearance. From its elevated plain can be seen the Capitol of the state, and on a clear day the far off "Blue Mounds" in the distance.

## RUTLAND.

BY S. W. GRAVES, ESQ.

This township lies on the southern boundary line of the county, which separates it from Union in Rock county. It is about fourteen miles southeast of Madison, and is known as township 5 north, of range 10 east.

The first permanent settlement commenced in the summer of 1842, by three families, Joseph Dejean and family, John Prentis and his father and Dan Pond. They settled in one corner of the town on the old Janesville and Madison road. The next year two other young men came in and took up claims in the same neighborhood. There was no settlement made in any other part of the town until 1844, when Squire Jonathan Lawrence and son, and myself and family came from Vermont, on the fifth day of July, and went back into the woods, as it was termed then. We took up a section of land and commenced a settlement by clearing, breaking and building our cabins ready for winter. During the fall four other cabins were built, of which two in the northern part of town, were for Jeremiah Douglass and Goodrich Cummings, and one adjoining me for Gideon Cummings, while Richard Priest, who came late in the fall, settled at a large spring in the center of the town. He came from In-

diana, and had eleven children, most of whom were grown to men and women.

In early spring of 1845, there came in a large number of people from Vermont and settled in the south part of the town, which took the name of the Vermont settlement, while in the northern part there came in quite a number from Maine, among whom were the Douglasses, Dammons, and Caslies, and a few from New York and Ohio, and settled there, and it was known as the Maine settlement.

It was estimated that there were about 400 inhabitants in the town in 1845. We had the advantage over many other towns in the first settlement, as there were no speculators' lands that could be held in reserve for the rise in value. The town had not those peculiar attractions for them which other towns possessed, with their large prairies and groves of timber, as the entire town was almost all burr oak-openings, with considerable marsh and a small part prairie in the north. The lands belonged to the general government, and were open for entry at any time, but most of the settlers that came here were poor and not able to enter these lands; some could enter a 40 acres and some an 80 acres, and so we organized claim societies to protect one another in the settlement of our homes. I must relate to you some incidents that occurred in 1845–6, which will illustrate the method we had of protecting each other. Our societies were thoroughly organized by officers. If any one attempted to enter any land that was already claimed by a settler,

he was immediately notified to appear before the executive board to give a reason why he entered the land; if he persisted, he was immediately notified to settle satisfactorily with the claimant, and if not, to leave town immediately. There were a few cases where they would not settle, and if they attempted to build their cabins, the people would meet in mass and tear down the same.

In the winter of 1846, the legislature passed a law giving the people the right to organize into towns in Dane county. The people of our town met soon after the passage of the law, and organized themselves into a town, and called it Rutland after the name of a town in Vermont. On the first Tuesday in April, 1846, we held our first election, and elected as *Supervisors* — Jonathan Lawrence, chairman, David West and Henry Edmonds; *Town Clerk* — S. W. Graves; *Road Commissioners* — David Tipple, S. W. Graves and Goodrich Cummings.

Since the settlement of our town, we have progressed slowly but steadily in agricultural pursuits, being all farmers. There are no large streams or villages, no manufactories, but a few mechanics. Our soil is good and well adapted for farming purposes; and as a farming community, we are very well located as to markets. There are no railroads in town, but we have the advantage of two, viz.: the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul, which runs along near the east line of the town, and very convenient for the people on the east side of the town to get their produce to

market, while the Chicago & Northwestern road just enters one corner of the town and runs along near the west line, which gives us a good market with Chicago. Our market towns are Stoughton and Edgerton on the east, Oregon, Brooklyn and Evansville on the west.

Since we have changed our mode of farming (less wheat for chinch bugs to devour), and gone to raising clover, neat stock, wool and pork, butter and cheese, we have done much better, getting rich slowly.

We have three churches, the Free-Will Baptist at the north part of the town, with a good meeting house; the United Brethren church at a little village on the west, with a small meeting house; and a Methodist church, with a good house of worship in the village of Brooklyn, in the township of Rutland, the village being on the line of two towns. There is quite a church of regular Baptists in town, but they unite with the church in Union, and have a good house of worship there.

Our town is organized into eight school districts and some joint districts, with very good school houses, and all maintain schools from six to eight months in the year.

We have but few natural curiosities, and they are some that used to attract our attention in an early day. A small river rises in the northwest corner of our town and runs southeast, and leaves the town at the southeast corner, and along this river there are a great number of springs; there is one spring so large that it runs a grist-mill within ten rods of its head

with two runs of stone. There is one mound spring twenty-four feet in diameter, and so deep it is difficult to find bottom. I have sounded it twenty feet and found none. There is a lake, known as Island Lake, which in early times was considered a curiosity. It has an island near the center, of about three acres, which was once thickly wooded with good rock maple trees, with no others within twenty miles. They were so fine, and all claimed them, that it led to a series of troubles, which left no other alternative, in order to settle the matter, but to go on the island and cut them down. Our stone quarries, of which we have quite a number, are full of interest to the geologist in hunting out the fossil remains.

The health of our town, from its first settlement until the present, has ever been good, which is owing to the numerous springs of pure water and the elevation of the land, which is ever receiving pure air from the surrounding hills, and no sunken places to engender diseases.

There are no Indian relics, no camps, trails, graves or mounds. When I first came into town the Indians were very numerous. They would often pitch their tents near some spring, and hunt deer for weeks and then move off.

In speaking of our town politically, perhaps this is a delicate subject, but I will give you a little something that has taken place in the political arena in the settlement of our town. In the south part, in the Vermont settlement, the Ohio people and part of

the New York people were whigs. The Maine people in the north part of the town were democrats, but the whigs had a majority. We used to have some warm times in the first settlement, but in the organization of the republican party in 1855, all of the Vermont settlement, all of the Ohio, and most of the New York people joined the republican party, but the people of Maine, to a man, held to their old party, and some of the old people were so disaffected that they left the town. Since the organization we have remained very strong republican, keeping a very even tenure; no ups and downs; there being two hundred republicans to twenty or thirty democrats. It has ever been termed the banner town of the county.

Most of the first settlers of the town are not here now; many have died, others have left. All of the Maine people except one have left town. The present inhabitants are a majority American people, some Welch, some Scotch, a few English, and quite a settlement of Danes.

## BURKE.

BY JOHN DOUGLAS.

This town is known as township 8 north, of range 10 east, and is equally divided into oak openings and prairie, with a marsh in the westerly part. Two branches of Token Creek enter the town. The eastern branch on section 3, and the western on section 6. then unite on section 7, run thence through the town of Westport into Fourth lake, being the largest stream that flows into the lake. The town received its name after the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, one of Ireland's illustrious orators and poets.

In 1847, it was made as one of the four towns of Windsor; the first town meeting was held at the house of Horace Lawrence, Charles M. Nichols being elected *chairman*, and Ira Mead, *clerk*. In 1852, it was organized as a separate town, and its first meeting held at the house of Adam Smith, when he was elected *chairman*, and John Douglas, *clerk*.

The Indian trail from Koshkonong and Third lakes, to Fort Winnebago (now Portage City), passed through the town, near the Indian Spring, on section 26. It was a well beaten track, and is still seen, where cultivation has not obliterated its traces, and on which the early settlers frequently saw as many as five hundred to one thousand Indians, with their wives and little ones, pass and repass in a week.

On section 10, in Mr. McMarran's field, there are two ancient circular mounds, and on H. P. Hall's lands, section 28, there is a mound in the form of a cross, while on section 30, on the farm of Henry Satchjen, there is a large oblong mound, running in a northwest and southeast direction, which was probably used at one time as a fort. These are all losing their identity by frequent cultivation of the soil.

Horace and William Lawrence came here from Vermont, in 1837, and built the first house in the town, on section 11, now owned and occupied by Washington Woodward. Lawrence lived here in the year 1838, and had a well known fame as a remarkably good hunter. In the winter he has been known to kill a score of deer, besides a great variety of other game. He is still noted among hunters as a good shot. Horace kept "bach" for some little time, but afterwards started a hotel, which for a number of years was known as the "Prairie House." When he raised his first barn it is said that nearly every white man in Dane, and some from Columbia county were present. The barn was afterwards destroyed by lightning.

The road to Fort Winnebago lay near the Prairie House, and many notables, even in early times had occasion to pass and repass through the town. Before the Mexican war, Gen. Scott (then only a colonel), together with Jefferson Davis and Zach. Taylor, being appointed by the United States government as inspectors of the military forts in the west, put up at the Prairie House, where they were entertained with

the common fare of deer, prairie hens and pork. Gen. Scott was the marked man among the others, not only for his tall and manly bearing, but also for the precise care he had of his person, performing his ablutions regularly and systematically. It is reported that they held a council with the Indians here.

The Indians were quite numerous in those early times, and were always peculiarly desirous of obtaining a little *fire water*, a privilege they then possessed, and which extended as well to some of the whites — indeed, the whites were known to be particularly fond of "Pecatonica" and "Rock River," pet names given for several kinds of whisky, and of a very poor quality at that. The Indians traded back and forward in the town for a number of years until large game became scarce, when their visits were not as frequent.

When Alex. Botkin settled on sections 27 and 28 (the '76 farm), the Indians always camped near his house, and in his dealings with them he at first had some trouble, in consequence of their innate thieving propensities and greed, but afterwards he became a person of considerable importance among them, so that on one occasion, when they had come in larger numbers than usual, he (in order that a proper understanding might exist between them and himself) assembled a council of all the chiefs in his house. Sitting down on the floor in a circle, while he stood in the center, he explained to them that they might camp near his house if they wished,

but must not steal his corn or hay; in fact (as he well knew the Indian character as being unsafe to *give* a gift without some equivalent) he would give them *nothing;* but if they had venison or anything to sell, he would willingly purchase the same. The council agreed to his request, and he had no trouble with them afterwards.

The mail was carried from Madison to Fort Winnebago, through this town, crossing the Creek a mile above the village on the old Indian trail, in the town of Windsor. There was no wagon road leading to the fort at that time, and business required to be done there had to be reached by passing across the creek at the old Indian trail. The only two houses on the road were the Lawrences', afterward called the "Prairie House," and Wallis Rowan's, near Poynette.

Chas. S. Peaslee, now living in Sun Prairie village, was an early settler on what is now known as Robert Ogilvie and A. C. Cummings' farm, on secs. 27 and 28. The frequent changes occurring among the settlers makes it difficult to trace up all occupants of this lovely spot; but soon after we find Alexander C. Botkin, Esq., lived here, near the beautiful rise of ground close to the road, that is now so tastefully surrounded with evergreens and other trees. He put up a sign, with the two large figures, '76, on it, in honor of the year in which the Declaration of Independence was made (1776), a term by which the farm is known even up to the present time, although it is also known as the "Courtney Place," because an English sea

captain of that name bought it, and there built a stone castle. It was struck by lightning and burned when the Hon. R. B. Sanderson owned and occupied it in 1870. It has not been rebuilt since, the walls still continuing to stand like some ancient ruins of feudal times. One of the former owners of the place, D. J. Powers, set out the poplar trees on the south-east side of the road, while Mr. Courtney planted those on the northwest side. J. C. Plumb, the celebrated nurseryman, now of Milton, Rock county, at one time leased this place, and many of the evergreens and fruit trees are of his planting. He was well known for a new variety of plum he raised. But the best were those in the house, and as good things are often moving, so they were transplanted to another place.

There was also a sign board placed on the hill beyond this farm, at the forks of the Portage and Columbus roads, but it is reported that there were rival taverns on each of these roads, and the sign board was frequently cut down by the landlords of these respective taverns, in the hope that travelers getting the wrong road, might patronize the house of the depredator.

Prairie fires were the dread of early settlers, and were sometimes caused by the Indians setting fire to the long grass for the purpose of driving the deer. These fires burned with intense heat, and traveled with great rapidity, making extraordinary leaps across creeks or any barriers that the settlers might have prepared to impede their progress and prevent the

burning of their fields of grain or stacks of hay. Many a time, when the husband would be absent on business or at the market, have the wife and children been compelled to spend the whole night fighting these fires from their homes, and when accomplished, would fall exhausted and powerless at the last place they extinguished the flames.

The late Alexander Botkin used to relate an incident of a semi-comic character, that we must try to repeat here. To be able to whip the prairie fires, required a great deal of skill and tact, so that the operator would put out the fire without scattering it or allowing any sparks to attach themselves to the hazel brush used as a whip, and thus avoid throwing fire backward when swinging the brush. A live Yankee from Vermont (visiting a neighbor of Mr. Botkin's), and who exhibited no capacity for knowing less than his western friends, whom, in fact, he rather conceived to be behind the times, and so was able to show them a little, started out one day to burn the grass round some stacks of hay, that had been put up in a meadow close by, just as Mr. Botkin stood on a knoll among some buckwheat. Looking for a moment toward the man to see what his object was, he saw him deliberately strike a match and light the grass on the windward side, then, with his hazel brush, commence whipping the flames. He had not proceeded far before he found that it required considerable alacrity to be able to control the fire, and, as with Yankee energy, he strove to subdue the flames,

it was but faint as compared with the consternation that afterwards seized him, when he felt an intense warmth on his back and turned to see the cause. He had whipped the fire into the stacks, and they were in a blaze. It was but a moment more and he was next seen rushing at a frantic speed across the prairie, seeming to imagine that every step he took was but one ahead of the devouring flames, while Mr. Botkin stood, the lone, but convulsed spectator of what he thought was Yankee confidence with a great deal of energy.

Men in those times seemed to be able to endure a greater amount of fatigue than they can at the present time. To travel on foot between here and Milwaukee was a very frequent occurrence, and was accomplished in about twenty-four hours. Mr. Botkin had at one time twelve acres of heavy oats to cut, and engaged four men to cut them. Two of them were men of about six feet hight, while the others were ordinary size. The tallest men cradled the oats, while the others bound them. Starting about seven in the morning, in the evening at sun down, the oats were all cut and bound. They cut very large swarths, and the binders kept up with each cut of the cradle.

Wolves were the scavengers of the prairie, and were also great pests around the farm. When any cattle died, they were removed to a convenient place away from the house, when in the evening, and often shortly after the carcass was left, the wolves would assemble in packs, and the night be made, with their

snarling howlings, the impersonation of the infernal regions.

About 1841, Abel Rasdall and Adam Smith settled on section 14, on land now owned by Mr. Hepker. They built a log cabin and broke up some of the land, but shortly after, Mr. Smith concluded to build a hotel, which he conducted for a number of years, and which was known, far and near, as "Smith's tavern." The building is still standing, and many pleasant and pleasing associations are connected with this home and household. He kept the first post-office in town, and has held that office for a number of years, as well as others of trust and honor. Sylvester Dunlap kept a store here for some years, and built up an excellent business. In 1848, one of the first school houses in town was built on the present site of Mr. Smith's elegant brick residence, but the school having been located in a more suitable place the old building was moved back, and is used by him as a granary. The new school house is located on a triangular piece of land, surrounded by some burr oaks, with the public highways on three sides of it.

Simplicity of life was always a marked feature among the early pioneers, and not less so was the implicit confidence they extended to each other and to entire strangers, as the following incident will show. When William Vroman, now of Madison, left New York to come to Madison, he came by way of Milwaukee. After waiting for some days, and finding

that he could not get through by stage, in consequence of the roads being in a bad condition from recent rains, he resolved to walk the distance on foot. After meeting with considerable difficulties (passing over the newly-formed causeway in the town of Deerfield, knee-deep in water), he came near the town of Burke, where he met a young man on horseback, who inquired of him if he was going to Madison, and if he was acquainted there. Answering in the affirmative, that he had a brother there, the young man looking at him a moment, and at the same time dismounting from his horse, told Mr. Vroman that he knew his brother, and as he seemed tired, he must ride to Madison; then directing him where to stable the horse, that he might find it conveniently when he again returned, left him in possession of the animal, he being then on his way to Watertown. The young man was then unknown to Mr. Vroman, but he afterward found him to be the Hon. Adam Smith, whose confidence in him, a stranger, was an astonishing phase of western life that he had never experienced before, nor had even any conception of. The simple fact that Mr. Smith knew his brother, George Vroman, was the measurement by which he judged the new acquaintance by the old.

Rough exteriors often cover warm hearts, and we are not guilty of flattery when we relate another incident just as pleasing. A poor German, near Mr. Smith's, had lost his horse just at the very busiest season of seeding, and the man being unable

to purchase or hire another, was in the awkward predicament of failing to get his seed in the ground. Adam Smith, hearing of the circumstance, rode over to the man's house, and, ascertaining the facts of the case to be so, told him he might come over to his barn and get one of his horses, which he could use until he had completed his seeding. This act at ordinary times might not have been deemed of much importance, but all farmers know the preciousness of such generosity, at a time when days are as months to them.

In early times the roads across the prairies were numerous, and often crossed each other in such a manner as to be perplexing to those unacquainted with the different tracks, who were liable to lose their way if not fortunate in striking the right one. On these roads emigrants' goods and lead from the mines at Blue Mounds were hauled by ox teams and covered wagons, popularly known as "prairie schooners." The teamsters and occupants, when they halted for the day, would usually select some suitable place that was known to provide shelter for themselves and grass for their animals. On the farm of H. P. Hall, section 28, there is a large burr oak that was a common resort, and was well known among the pioneers and immigrants as the "Traveler's Home." The tree is about ten feet in circumference toward the base, and about seven feet from the ground there are five branches that spread out from the trunk nearly forty feet. It occupies as much ground in Mr. Hall's

orchard as ten apple trees would, and stands in full view of the road, strong and vigorous, spreading over the ground like a great mammoth tent. Many a weary traveler has eaten his frugal meal under its sheltering branches, and it was a frequent occurrence to see as many as a dozen of the "prairie schooners" either at anchor or sailing in sight of this noble oak, where hotel charges were as free as the air of the wide spread prairie, accommodations being plenty and grass and water near at hand.

Alexander Lamere, a Canadian Frenchman, was an early settler. He owned a farm on section 10, which he sold to Mr. McMurran and Martin Lewis. He was at one time engaged in the service of the Hudson Bay Company, and when residing here, usually occupied himself hunting and trapping. He was well known from the peculiarity of his costume, which was a suit of buckskin, with a little hatchet belted on behind him. He married a squaw, and removed with her when her tribe went west, by order of the United States Government.

Martin Lewis, who settled on section one, built his house on the edge of the prairie, which was a visible land mark for some distance round, and especially serviceable as a lighthouse in the night for travelers crossing the prairie, who took the lights in his windows to enable them to take their bearings.

In 1841, G. A. Spaulding, from Vermont, settled on section 3, on the old Indian camping ground near Token Creek. He built part of the house now occu-

pied by G. W. Loomis. He kept a hotel there for a number of years, and by the aid of his worthy wife and estimable daughters, it was a favorite resort in its day. The bridge across the creek was built near the house, about two years afterwards, 1843. He also built the house now occupied by L. M. Fuller, who is a very useful man among his neighbors, having an intuitive ability to take hold of any mechanical work for repair or construction which may be given him.

Messrs. Hanchett & Harris opened the first store in town at Token Creek in 1848. It was a small building, 14x18, with an upper chamber, and stood a little north of the present store. They occupied the ground floors, while Messrs. Davy & Robinson, two Englishmen from London, used the upper room as shoemakers, and were well known as good workmen. Mr. Davy had at one time been a sailor, and the constant custom of sleeping in a hammock had become so habitual to him, that he had one attached to the rafters of the room in which he slept. He had a taste for natural history, and for years had engaged himself in the preserving of flies, bugs and birds, of which he had large assorted specimens. Dr. R. K. Bell was the first physician in the town. He first lived at the Prairie House, but afterwards built a house at Token Creek. He was a young man of noble appearance, fine ability, and very successful in his profession; but he died young.

In the south part of Windsor, near Token Creek, there is a large hill that is familiarly known as "Big

Hill," and which in old times was looked upon as the lighthouse of the prairie, by which travelers were able to steer their course when crossing the open country. It was for many years their only way-mark and guide to find the harbor of Token Creek.

Mr. Goodrich and Mr. E. C. Bullis were the first blacksmiths of any note, and were afterwards succeeded by M. C. Connor, who is still in Token Creek, but has for some time back retired from the forge. Mr. Bullis' house was moved from the south part of the town of Bristol to its present site, a distance of five miles, and is occupied by Mr. Connor.

Selden Combs and brother at one time had a brick yard at the Creek, but it is not now in operation. When the war broke out, Capt. William A. Fields, who kept the hotel, raised a company for the war, and had them drilled in the village. [The first store in the village was built by John Douglas, who came here in the year 1847. He is a part owner in the mill, and is also engaged in surveying. It is related of him that at one time, while engaged surveying for a Norwegian, who could not speak or understand English, they came to an Indian wigwam, and it was a matter of astonishment to the Indians that Mr. Douglas and the Norwegian were compelled to understand each other by signs, as well as the Indians were them. Three nationalities were here represented, but the red man was as favorably situated as his more civilized brothers, since they could do no more than talk by signs. The compass which Mr. Douglas carried was a subject

of great wonderment to them, as they kept turning it over to examine it. When elected to the office of superintendent of schools, he rode round the county on a black pony, that was too lazy to run away, and when he came to the school to be visited, if no convenient hitching place was at hand, a rope carried in his saddle bags, Jacob's staff, that he carried with him, were made serviceable for the occasion, and the pony was staked on the prairie until again required. On one occasion, as justice, he married a couple under the shade of an oak tree, and who sat in their open buggy during the performance of the marriage service. It is reasonable to suppose that the couple were made happy, and though romantic like, yet in those early times it was more difficult to catch a justice than to be caught by one.]

The road by way of Token Creek was in old times very much traveled, as people passed through the village on their way to Fort Winnebago and the pineries. It was no uncommon thing to see five or six four-horse coaches pass each way in a day, and equally so to see a score of teams in sight. On one occasion, in the winter, a company of twenty-five teams passed through the village, and they enlivened the occasion by one of the occupants of the sleighs playing a violin with his hands delicately encased in gloves. There were also, on another occasion, 200 head of cattle and thirty-seven teams, loaded, and on their way to the pineries. The manner of supplying the early settlers with cattle and horses was, for parties from the south

to start in the spring, when the grass was getting up, and drive before them droves of cattle and horses with bells round their necks, which enabled the drivers to hunt up any that strayed from the herd.

Ezra Gould was an early settler on section 32. A painful incident is connected with his respected wife, who became blind by accidentally running against the sharp point of the spindle of a spinning wheel. She is now living at Belleville, and is a diligent and tidy housewife yet, even under her severe affliction.

The farmers hauled their wheat to Milwaukee to market, and the small amount paid them for their grain very often brought them back in debt, unless they were fortunate in bringing back merchandise or immigrants.

Deer were plenty, and seen in droves of from 25 to 100. But the Indians at one time went out on a big hunt, and drove the deer toward Fourth Lake, in the town of Westport, and killed over 500, which, together with the continued shooting of them by the early settlers, has made their appearance scarce. Mr. H. P. Hall, for a number of years, kept a small deer park; but, four years ago, during a storm, his fence was blown down, and seven of the deer escaped, and are supposed to have bred in the woods, as three or four have been shot in the neighborhood.

On the elevated prairie land owned by G. J. Margerum and S. A. Cummings, there was at one time a remarkably good race course. From this position a magnificent view is obtained of Madison and the sur-

rounding country. The sporting men from Madison, as well as others in and out of the state, would gather at this course in large numbers, and witness many good horses try their speed and excellence in in equestrian display, even to rivalling Hiram Woodruff. When Kittie Miles, from Canada, ran a race here, she broke from the course and ran a distance of two miles, to the barn of Adam Smith, and gave the race to her competitor, "Little Flea," from Long Island, New York. The celebrated trotter, Tobby was trained on this course.

S. L. Sheldon, the well known agricultural machine dealer, settled here about 1854, on sections 32 and 33. He owned 150 acres — 70 on section 32 and 80 on 33. There were only seventeen acres under the plow, forty heavy timber, while the balance had been at one time timbered like the forty, but was then thickly covered with an underbrush of from ten to twenty feet high. He afterwards added enough land to make his farm 540 acres, and set out an orchard of over one thousand trees, put out about two miles of shade trees, and built about the same amount of fencing that year. The farm originally belonged to an early pioneer by the name of West, and who, as a type of all of that class of persons, was unable to bear the inroads of civilization, so, as his name indicates, he sold his farm and went *West*.

Mr. S. taught school in the old log school house on his farm, which was one of the first district schools, but in 1855, having sold that part of it to Alex. Lisk, in the winter he taught in his own log cabin,

where he kept "bach," superintended the work of three hired men, did the housework, and sawed and split fire wood in the evening. He built the barn now owned by Samuel Drakely, on the southeast side of the road. In 1857, he started the selling of agricultural machinery, being the third person in the business in this county. The first was P. L. Carman (of the firm of Gray and Carman), and the second James H. Hill, (of the firm of Davis and Hill), now engaged in the drug business on King street, Madison. His business, from this small beginning, has kept steadily increasing until he is now the largest individual dealer in agricultural machinery in the United States. From this increase, he was obliged to sell out his farm and confine himself entirely to business in the city and elsewhere, so that in 1864 P. L. Carman and T. S. Phillip bought each a part of the 540 acres. He expended about $10,000 in improvements and sold for $14,000, leaving 250 acres under the plow. A small portion of that farm was afterwards sold by P. L. Carman for $450 an acre, without any buildings on it.

The first reaper trial in this section occurred on the farm of H. P. Hall, and between Mr. Porter, the representative of the McCormick, and S. L. Sheldon, of Seymour and Morgan, which last was the successful machine.

An incident connected with the above trial is recorded in regard to one of the agents who was exhibiting the McCormick machine. He, at one time, had been engaged in business in the east, but suddenly

disappeared from his accustomed quarters, and was never heard of again. As the trial went on, Mr. Hall's father, who was visiting at that time, came out of the house to witness its progress. As he approached one of the agents, the old gentleman was seen to be particularly scrutinizing of the personal appearance of the man, and finally burst out with the exclamation: "Halloa! is that you, Mr. ——? When did you come out here?" No two men ever looked at each other with greater astonishment than they did, the one an extensive creditor of the absenting defaulter, and the other the veritable *debit*. It is needless to add that he also went west; at least he was mysteriously absent a second time.

An illustration of a conscientious regard for the true meaning and intent of law is related of Mr. Sheldon. In 1857, he was elected assessor, and fulfilled the requirements of the office to the satisfaction of all concerned, and was again elected to fill the office. During this same year the legislature changed the old law so as to require the assessor to put in the land at its *real value*. He sacredly performed his duty, and the result showed a larger increase of taxes and a very large amount of dissatisfaction among the tax payers, and, though a very popular man in the town, the feeling against him for the proper discharge of his duty was such, that he could not have obtained a reëlection to office at any price or under any consideration.

Mr. Sheldon was one of the foremost men in everything pertaining to the interest of the town when he

was a resident of it, displaying the same zeal and energy which he has in his business calling, and, in his new home, is the leading incentive to all modern improvements in agricultural machinery.

P. L. Carman came to Wisconsin in 1847. He first located in Columbia county, while we were under the territorial form of government. In 1853 he removed to Madison, where, as dealer in grain and coal, and agricultural implements, he was known for many years, but for more than twenty years, and up to 1874, he was best known in Wisconsin and Minnesota as agent for the "Buffalo Pitts" Thresher. In August, 1864, he purchased that portion of the Sheldon farm, in the town of Burke, on sections 32 and 33, which lay on the west side of the Sun Prairie road, containing about 260 acres. In the same month he divided the land and sold to Wm. F. Fitch about 120 acres, comprising all the buildings and improvements, reserving the remaining 140 acres for a residence. He moved into the Sheldon house at once, and thus became a resident of the town of Burke, and commenced improving his place by breaking ground for a new dwelling on the first day of September, having bought, resold and made building contracts, all between the 16th of August and the 1st of September, 1874. A large and substantial brick dwelling house was completed and occupied by himself and family on the 10th day of December the same fall. The site selected for improvements, adjoined the Grover farm, and was covered with a thick growth of timber and

underbrush. The buildings were located with great care, and the grounds laid out with a view of making a beautiful wooded lawn. By having the grounds laid out and plotted, and by working according to a settled plan, together with the expenditure of not a little persevering industry, he succeeded in making one of the pleasantest and most beautiful homes on the street. The one main feature of the place was the cool green lawn, containing some six or eight acres, surrounding the buildings shaded by its native trees, and added evergreens and shrubbery, and well-kept drives.

This feature will be remembered by those who were in the habit of passing on their way to the city, some three miles distant.

In 1873 he sold the place to J. C. McKenney, Esq., and removed to Madison.

J. C. McKenney was the assistant United States Attorney at the time of the breaking up of the whisky ring, and successfully prosecuted that portion of the ring which was tried in Madison. As the result of his success in the prosecution of these cases in Madison, he was employed by the government as a special attorney to conduct the prosecution of the cases of the same nature in Milwaukee. After the close of this engagement, he opened an office in Milwaukee, for the general practice of law, where he is still engaged. His family lives upon the farm, which he still occupies as his home.

The portion of the Sheldon farm bought by Wm. F.

Fitch, stepson of the Hon. Judge Hood, was occupied by him early in the spring of 1865, and extensive improvements commenced on the buildings and farm under the immediate supervision of N. B. Van Slyke, Esq. It was occupied as a home by Judge Hood and family (together with that of Mr. Fitch), for a number of years, until Judge Hood became a permanent resident in Washington. Mr. Fitch is now connected in an official capacity with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway.

Mr. H. N. Moulton has recently purchased the old Isaac Smith farm, on section 33, and has added considerable to the general appearance of the place, both internally and externally. Its proximity to the highway makes it very observable, as also the addition of a neat bay window, that during the winter Mrs. Moulton had tastefully filled with house plants, whose blossoms in the cold, bleak months of winter, have gladdened both the eye and the heart, and made it a green spot in the memory of every passer-by. Mr. Moulton is engaged in business in the city, and drives to and from every morning and evening.

Where John Brigham lives, on section 32, there was at one time a good hotel. It was built and kept for a number of years by Eleazer Grover, and was a well-known resort for travelers. Bennet Britton also owned and kept a hotel on the farm at present owned by Gen. Harnden, which was also a desirable resort in old times. It now stands a little further back than it did formerly. Gen. Henry Harnden is perhaps not

usually known to have been the person who captured Jefferson Davis, when he appeared in his unmanly suit toward the close of the late rebellion. He was colonel of the First Wisconsin cavalry that pursued and overtook Davis, near Irwinville, Georgia. The facts of that remarkable capture are still fresh in the memory of our citizens, but the indefatigable endurance of the general and his brave men will never be fully known even from the lips of those who were participants in the long night and day rides which finally resulted in the capture of Davis. When taken prisoner, he expressed a great deal of contempt for the United States government, who were employing their troops, he said, to harass *women* and children, and pacing backward and forward in front of Gen. Harnden and his command, tried to assume an arrogance of speech which was significant of an effort to impress persons with an idea of his importance, and also that he was not receiving the respect due to him, being simply acknowledged as *Mr. Davis*. A lady of the party, said to be Mrs. Davis, sallied forth from one of the tents, and in an imploring and disturbed manner, expressed herself in the hearing of the soldiers that they must be careful not to irritate the president, as some of them might get *hurt*.

Gen. Harnden bought this farm of Maj. Meredith, about four years ago, since, which, he has greatly improved it by rebuilding the fences, sinking a new well, putting up a wind mill, and building a tenement house. The farm is at present under a very high

state of cultivation and consists of 200 acres. He is engaged in breeding short-horn cattle.

Maj. Meredith bought 80 acres of this farm from Capt. Albert Pierson, in 1866, and, after tearing down the old Britton barn, he built a large new one, and afterwards added 120 acres more, which he bought of Mrs. Carpenter, the widow of the former owner, who lived in Ohio. He conducted a general farming business, but being Superintendent of Public Property under Governors Fairchild and Washburne, did not give the attention to the farm that he otherwise would. The Major was among the first volunteers in the Second Regiment, and was First Lieutenant in Company H. He was wounded at the battle of Bull Run of July 21, 1861, by which he lost the use of his arm. He was commissariat of General Pope's command.

"Cincinnati Heights," formerly known as "Rock Terrace," is the residence of J. M. Dickson, a retired capitalist, who has 300 acres under cultivation. He gave it the present name in honor of his former place of residence, Cincinnati. Nature has made it a lovely spot, and from here you have a grand view of Madison, with the Lakes on each side. In the distance is the far-famed Blue Mounds, where memory recalls the place where the first settler lived, Ebenezer Brigham, who in those pioneer days, when he dug for lead, was obliged to carry it on his back to Mineral Point, twenty miles distant, and return with his supplies in the same manner. The surroundings of

this beautiful spot cannot be penned; they must be seen.

The first proprietors of the "Heights," were John Tweed and J. V. Robbins, but shortly afterwards Robbins bought out Tweed, and became sole owner. He took a great interest in the raising of stock of the very best; buying only premium cattle wherever he had an opportunity, and keeping nothing but the best swine, cows, and horses. He was the occasion of of the great impetus given to the surrounding country in the raising of pure stock. An extensive nursery was also carried on by him, under the able superintendence of the late L. P. Chandler, who was for many years foreman with the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder.

An idea may be given of the extensiveness of Mr. Robbins' farm, when it is stated that the Hons. J. J. Crittenden and Thomas F. Marshall of Kentucky (when in Madison during one of the political campaigns) were the guests of Mr. Robbins, and on being escorted by the Governor's Guards out to his residence, he received them with a greater number of his employés than the whole military company, besides the display of flags and emblems were larger than had been made at Madison.

Being a great admirer of the late Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, he made a cheese that weighed 1,620 pounds, that was exhibited at our State Fair in 1860, but which he intended presenting to Douglas the same year, if he became the successful candidate for

president of the United States. He did not get elected, so the cheese was reluctantly cut up and distributed among a number of Mr. Robbins friends, who pronounced it a first class article. To make the cheese Mr. Robbins had his teams scattered over the town soliciting milk from the other farmers, whose contributions he paid for.

The farm now owned by H. P. Hall, on sections 20, 21, 28 and 33, embraces, with other purchases, the farm once owned by Wm. F. Porter, Esq., who put up many of the buildings. Mr. Hall has since made extensive improvements, adding greatly to the number and extent of the buildings. He has a large dairy and furnishes milk to the citizens of Madison. The farm is known as the "Orchard Farm" for the reason that there were once 2,600 apple and fruit trees on the land. There are now about 1,600 apple trees of hardy varieties in thriving condition, many of the tender varieties of apples, pears, plum and cherry trees having proved too tender for this climate. This is perhaps the largest orchard farm in the county.

This farm embraces some 668 acres of fine land, well proportioned for profit and convenience, abundantly supplied with wood and water, and has most likely, the finest and most complete set of farm buildings in this section of the country. There are five dwelling houses, five large barns with stables, ice house, observatory, etc. The basement used for cows is of solid masonry, 60 by 120 feet. Water is conducted from tanks to parts of the buildings and adjacent fields,

with a constant supply for over 200 head of stock. In the summer of 1858 Mr. H. made some seven miles of ditch, the main one being 8 feet wide, 4 feet deep and 3½ miles in length, to improve a large meadow which was unprofitable, the neighbors expressing their pity for the waste of money, and folly of the Yankee farmer. It may be interesting to know that that portion of the farm, some 340 acres, has become firm land, bearing heavy grass, and for years been adapted to the use of machinery and suitable for driving upon with horse and carriage at all seasons of the year. The drainage has been followed up where needed, till within a few years, and is now complete.

The main house stands off the road with a beautiful lawn of two acres in front, surrounded in part by a magnificent circle of evergreens, which are some thirty to forty feet high, and form a shaded driveway, which for magnificence is hard to excel, even in older or wealthier portions of our country. The views from parts of the farm are extensive and charming, embracing views of Madison, the lakes, asylum and Blue Mounds. This farm was entered for premium farm in 1860, and though then in a crude condition, the committee of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, made the following mention:

> This farm has every variety of land necessary to make an excellent grain and stock farm. These superior natural advantages are being well improved by Mr. Hall. .... It is but four years since this entire farm was in a state of nature. We find the buildings all in excellent condition, comprising every convenience of an old New England farm that has been improved a hundred years. .... He

depends upon no one thing to make his farm profitable, but is developing each branch of agriculture with zeal, system and apparent success. His horses are good, substantial animals, without running specially to fancy; his cattle are all good, and means are being used for their improvement, .... and everything is kept in a manner that indicates good skill and economy in his operations. .... He is doing a noble work in reclaiming a marsh on the back part of his farm. .... There can be but little doubt but land that a year or two ago was so wet that it was useless, will be made the most valuable on his farm. W. S. A. T., pp. 146–7, 1860.

As high as 43½ bushels of wheat have been raised on an acre of land, and 138 bushels of corn, under most favorable seasons and circumstances. Mr. Hall being one of the executive committee for a number of years afterwards, was of course precluded from making a contest for a premium a second time.

The amount of capital invested in this farm is an exhibit, not only of the great confidence and faith which Mr. Hall has had in the rich and prolific bearing of the soil, but of that stability of aim which has had the power and the will to make even the sterile lands subservient to his purposes. There has been expended in the way of improvements over $70,000, an amount that would (in proportion to what is deemed certain investments in commercial circles) startle and amaze many. The tact of managing his farm and hired help is well worth imitation by all who find that their bane is *poor* help. He is particular in his first agreement with his hands, so that no misunderstanding may occur by which either party may be disappointed in their expectations; and then he is also in sympathy with them because of a rule he has of not

asking too much, knowing that human endurance has a limit both physically and morally. He requires no extra labor, however trivial, that is not compensated by its equivalent in pay. There are over thirty souls that live and are dependent on the labors of this farm.

When the bustle and hurry of spring, summer and fall work have somewhat relieved the constant friction of their bearing on the hired help, Mr. Hall gives them a social entertainment, in which they have music, together with a choice selection of the creature comforts. On one occasion the Madison brass band resolved to compliment Mr. H. and family by a serenade, and engaged an express wagon to carry them out to his house. After discoursing some of their sweet strains, the hospitalities of the house were kindly proffered them. The teamster having delivered his charge, *tied* his horses in a convenient place, and prepared for a night's frolic. As the hours moved on, the horses became restive and finally broke loose and ran away. When informed by some one of the fact, the driver, who was of Teutonic origin, came rushing out in an excited state, addressed every one he met with the exclamation: "Who *tie* my horse *loose!* Who *tie* my horse *loose?*" The horses were afterwards found *tied loose*, about two miles distant on the Token Creek road.

Mr. Geo. J. Margerum, lately of Youngstown, Ohio, has bought the farm, on section 22, formerly owned by H. P. Hall, and now known as "Fairview Farm," and has made some very extensive changes there.

The improvements are of a superior character and he seems to take advantage of his opportunities, as may be seen by the neat and useful observatory he has constructed; in putting his windmill to a double purpose. The frame is boxed in with wood, and neatly painted, while inside a stair is built with convenient platforms at each alternate angle, which leads to the top, and from which a commanding and pleasing view is obtained of the rich and beautiful fields, all over the country; the churches of Sun Prairie, the Blue Mounds in the distance, towns of Westport, Springfield, Dane, Vienna, Windsor, are all set out before the eye in panoramic beauty, while Madison, with its surroundings, lies in queenly grandeur in the sunlight of her magnificient lakes. Mr. Margerum intends adding still further to the conveniences of the tower inside and out. He has made some purchases of choice horses, cattle and sheep, and purposes engaging in the raising of stock, having prepared his large barn and other buildings for that object.

Mr. Robert Ogilvie, the present owner of the '76 farm on section —, is engaged in raising pure breed Clydesdale horses. His farm is still kept under good cultivation, although he is much occupied with his business in the city of Madison. He has concentrated a great deal of attention in the raising of pure stock, but more especially horses. That our readers may have some conception of the character of these horses, we herewith submit a description of them, showing their breeding and pedigree:

"MARQUIS OF LORNE," two years old, and will now weigh over 1,600 pounds, and from the time he was a foal by his mother's side up to the present, he has never failed to carry away the first honors in any ring wherever shown, at the many state and county fairs he has attended.

"ROBBIE BURNS" is a powerful brown horse seven years old, stands 16½ hands high and weighs over 2,000 pounds, on remarkable good legs, great bone and substance, combined with superior action and good temper. He is pronounced the most perfect model of a Clydesdale horse in Scotland or America. He was bred by Mr. Wilson Brittlebog, Kilburnie (Scotland) and sired by Rabbie Burns, the property of Mr. Clark, Manswraes, Kilburchan. His dam was also one of the successful mares that carried off the prizes at several of the local fairs in her district. Robbie Burns was first exhibited at the great horse show in Milwaukee, and took second in his class and second in sweepstakes, being beaten in both only by the farfamed "Donald Dinnie." He took first prizes in Quincy, Ill., and first at the great horse fair in St. Louis, which has ever been regarded as the largest and most prominent agricultural fair held on this continent.

"DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH," one year old, a worthy Son of the famous Donald Dinnie, who won the international medal at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia last year.

"PRINCESS," a pure bred imported Clylesdale mare, six years old, weighing over 1,900 pounds, and has been a first prize winner at every fair where she has been shown since her importation to this country.

"GYPSY QUEEN," five years old; another pure bred, imported Clydesdale mare, who took first in her class two years ago at the great horse show at St. Louis,

In addition to the above, Mr. Ogilvie has many other valuable horses, which undoubtedly place his entire stock superior to any other in this state. There are other specialities here, apart from his horses; in the way of good hogs and cattle. The hogs are particularly good, being first prize and sweepstakes winners at our state and county fairs; they are the

justly famous Berkshire breed, now so popular among the first feeders and breeders of the present day. The cattle are pure bred and graded short horns, and like everything else on the farm, are not to be surpassed anywhere.

There is a spring on the farm that is known as the head of the "Clyde Creek" which flows in a southwesterly direction, through the town of Blooming Grove into Third lake. Philo Dunning for some years had a saw mill on the stream, at a place which was known by some as "Millwood."

Mr. Henry Gilman owns a fine large farm of 400 acres, on section 22, known as "Hill Side" farm. It was at one time owned by J. V. Robbins, who put a very extensive and expensive lot of buildings on it, and called them the "farm-house," but which were accidentally destroyed by fire, when owned by Dexter Curtis. The thorough and extensive improvements which Mr. Gilman has made, rank with the leading farms in town. He has rebuilt a portion of the barns, refitted the elegant white brick house, situated a few rods from the road, beautifully surrounded with evergreens, and is devoting himself entirely to the raising of stock. He is at present engaged in erecting a barn on the old site of the famous Robbins barn, which was the most complete building for that purpose in the state. The new barn will measure fifty by one hundred feet, and is intended as a rival to its predecessor. The well arranged conveniences which surround his farm are not surpassed by any

other in the county, and he is making it his object to spare neither labor nor money in making it a model farm in every particular. There are two cisterns, one of which holds 1,500 and the other 1,000 barrels of water, that are in themselves sufficient to house both flocks and herds. He has a convenient platform scale in front of his farm, for the use of himself and neighbors, in weighing hay and cattle. His wells are thirty feet deep in the soil, and then drilled through rock the same distance. While the workmen were engaged drilling, they struck a vein of water that precipitated the drill eighteen inches down, and an endless flow of water at any season and under all circumstances was the result.

Mr. Gilman is a son of Gen. John C. Gilman, of Watertown, one of the oldest pioneer settlers of the state. He and Tim. Johnson were the first to settle in Watertown, having come in the winter of 1836. In the spring of 1847 he was engaged to locate the school lands in the Mineral Point district, and employed John Douglas as surveyor, to assist him. On the discovery of gold in California, the General immigrated there, and remaining a few years returned home, then started for Pike's Peak, and afterwards to Montana, where he died in 1869. Soon after the selection of the land for school purposes, and immediately at the conclusion of the Mexican war, he, in consequence of his acquaintance with the land, located a large number of pieces for those who held land warrants, and at the same time located three quarter

sections for himself, in the town of Vienna, which he afterwards bought and sold to his son Henry, who broke up the land and farmed it for some years, but selling out, went into the mercantile business in the village of Sun Prairie, his chief object being to secure better opportunities for educating his children. Having a good chance to dispose of this business, he sold and bought his present location, the Robbins farm. He has again entered business in Sun Prairie, being a partner in the firm of Gilman, Moak and Weigan.

Near the back of his house there is a knoll that is said to be the highest point of land in the town, and which Mr. Robbins, when he owned the farm, was undecided whether to build there or on "Cincinnati Heights." The view from here is equally intensifying in grandeur to that of the others, and with surrounding fields spread round the knoll, is suggestive of the times when chiefs assembled their followers around some such eminence for the purpose of harranguing them. A host could be gathered round this spot, and their leader's every gesture and word seen and heard with distinctness. On the opposite side of the highway, there is a portion of land that looks like a twin sister to this knoll, and may at one time have been part of it. It is on Mr. Margerum's farm, and has been opened and excellent stone obtained for building purposes.

Doctor Wightman and Mr. Damon were the first owners of the farm now owned by La Fayette Stow, on section 23. Mr. Stow has moved the double house

farther from the road, to a more convenient and pleasanter place, and built a fine, large barn, with a stone basement.

On the road between sections 21 and 22, there is a hill known as "Norwegian Hill" (named so because a number of citizens of that nationality reside near there). It has lately been graded and greatly improved. On the top of this hill, N. B. Van Slyke, Esq., has a fine farm with a good view of the city in the distance.

Ensign hill, on section 10, is well known as one of the places where a good view of the county can be obtained. It is called Ensign hill, because a gentleman of that name owned the farm on this section. It is noted for its cold exposure in winter, so that a common expression among the neighbors is to say, "as cold as Ensign hill."

Some of the early settlers are, Mr. Dailey, on section 33, Gardner Cotrell on 23, A. D. Goodrich on 9, F. H. Talcott on 15, James Sullivan and H. D. Goodenow on 34, C. M. Nichols and George Nichols on 36, Thomas Rathbun on 11, Thomas Sandon and J. P. W. Hill on 5, Martin Lewis on 1, S. W. Thompson on 12, Torkel Gulekson and Gunder Olson on 24.

The farm of Sidney H. Hall comprises one hundred and sixty acres of prairie and opening. It is pleasantly situated, and affords a fine view of Madison and the lakes. Brought under cultivatian in 1857, it was originally a grain farm, but at present is devoted to market gardening, and is also the home of a herd of Alderney cattle. An orchard of 500 trees and

a well 130 feet deep are the principal attractions of the place. From the bottom of this well may always be heard the rippling of an unseen spring. One of the earliest windmills in the country was set up over this well.

The farm of Adam Smith comprises 520 acres, on sections 13 and 14, and is beautifully situated. It is part prairie, oak openings and meadow lands, and the house is acknowledged to be the most complete in the county. He came west in 1837, and was one of those who worked on the capitol, and afterward purchased the interest of Pineo, the "shingle weaver," and made shingles for the capitol contractors. He kept tavern on his present farm for twenty-eight years, and was the first that staked out the road between Token Creek road and Sun Prairie. He also assisted in laying out the one between Cottage Grove and the Creek. When he kept tavern, his house was much frequented, and many social gatherings were held there that recall pleasant recollections among many early settlers.

As justice of the peace, he sometimes made the law subservient to the circumstances of the case. A thief was once caused to pay the penalty of his crime by walking through the slush roads back to the place he committed the depredation, and after suitable apology and a reprimand, was set at liberty; while on another occasion, he threatened to chastise two clients that would not, at his suggestion, come to an amicable settlement. Many and singular samples of humanity put up at his tavern, and if unable to pay, a candid

acknowledgment of the fact was sufficient for him, but it sometimes happened that an impostor would try to take advantage of the landlord's generous hospitality. A man of considerable physical power once took breakfast there, and refused to pay because he had no money. Mr. Smith seemed to doubt him, when the fellow, seemingly conscious of his physical superiority, boldly walked off. He was pursued by Mr. Smith, and after a desperate struggle brought back, when $300 in gold was found tied securely round his waist. He was made to pay for his breakfast, and also, as Mr. Smith called it, the legal expenses of bringing him back.

Mr. Smith was considered a dead shot with the rifle. The elk horns that were exhibited for so many years at Rodermund's brewery were supposed to be the results of his rifle.

The grist mill on section 5 was commenced in 1849 by David C. Butterfield, a peculiar and eccentric man, that in early times did some trading with the Indians. He did not complete the mill, but Rasdall and Loomis bought and finished it, and it is still in operation and a great convenience to the surrounding country. Rasdall was an old pioneer settler and Indian trader, and was one of the spy scouts in the Black Hawk war. He was accidentally killed by getting into the gearing of the mill.

Douglas and Parfey built and owned the grist mill in the south part of Windsor, at Token Creek, and soon after Mr. Douglas became sole proprietor. It

was badly constructed at first, so that new wheels and gearing had to be put in and the dam thoroughly repaired, making it an expensive investment to the then owner. He now has a half interest it.

At Token Creek, in Windsor, near the line, there is a number of springs which are now being successfully used by Ellis Lawrence as a fish hatchery. He has made two ponds, and has about fifteen hundred trout in them. It promises to be an excellent spot for the purpose he is now engaged in developing.

Abner Cady built the first brick house in the town, on section 16, the brick of which he made himself. It is now occupied by Hermon Olson.

David Grafton, a veterinary surgeon, who lives on section 3, has a far-famed reputation for his professional skill in the treatment of the diseases of all kinds of cattle and horses, the latter more especially, and is much sought after among those needing his attention. He is a man of remarkably generous impulses, and for which he is even more highly esteemed than he is professionally. "Uncle David," as he is familiarly and affectionately called, has a heart too large to be measured by the world's narrow guage. No neighbor ever feels the sharp shaft of sorrow, that does not find in him a soothing and helpful friend in need; and no wayfarer ever passes his house whose wants are not bountifully supplied, and he set on his way rejoicing. He is a man of upwards of seventy years, but yet is so hale and hearty, that he bids fair to outlive many of his juniors. It will be a dark day

to the town when it shall be known that the "golden bowl is broken, and the silver cord loosed," and "Uncle David" gone to his long home.

The first and only church is on section 15, with a cemetery attached. It belongs to the Norwegian Lutherans. There is a Grange Hall on section 23, and nine public school houses and eleven school districts, including joint districts. The track of Madison and Portage Railroad passes through the western part of the town, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul on the southeast, and the Northwestern, the southwest corner.

There are cemetery grounds on sections 14 and 26.

That part of the road leading out to the Insane Asylum, from Madison, passes over a part of the western line of the town, and is familiarly known as Sugar Bush grove, from the number of maple trees growing there. It is the leading road to the Asylum, and also to several of the towns north of Burke.

The town is near the city of Madison, and one of the principal thoroughfares from the city is a leading artery through the town of Burke to several of the towns in the county, and is known as the "Sun Prairie road." It is directly in a line with the State capital in a northeastern direction. It was at one time part of the old military road to Green Bay. That portion of the road lying nearest the city was for years a source of trouble to the citizens, in consequence of the marshy character of the ground leading over the creek, and impassible in spring or wet weather. Mr.

H. P. Hall agreed with a number of the citizens to fill up the marsh provided they would contribute toward the expense. The work was done, and is now one of the best parts of the road.

Mr. S. A. Cummings is recently from Massachussets, and has bought what is known as the "Floral Hill" farm, and is engaged in general farming.

David Prindle was an early settler on section 26, and was, before he died, the oldest man in town. He died at about ninety years of age.

Washington Woodward, on sec. 11, has some fast horses which lately carried off the prize at Stoughton.

C. G. Lewis, son of Martin Lewis, and brother of H. M. Lewis, attorney, Madison, has a fine farm on section one. The road here is beautifully situated for a drive, and those having fast horses often use the street as a place to try their speed. The old gentleman is about eighty years of age, and drives the cows to the pasture like a youngster.

Judge L. B. Vilas owns nearly all of section 36, on which there are some springs that have mineral properties of a medicinal character in them.

The soil is good for grain and stock raising, while water is both good and plenty. Some of the best farms, best buildings and modern improvements are to be found in this town, and with its location and numerous advantages will be ranked among the best in the state. The people are of an enterprising, steady character, made up of several nationalities, and noted for a development of a thorough knowledge of agricultural pursuits in all its bearings.

## DEERFIELD.

BY K. O. HEIMDAL.

This town is the third from the north and south, in the eastern tier of towns in the county, occupying the whole of township No. 7, range No. 12 east, and was set off from Cottage Grove, which bounds it on the west; and organized as a separate town in 1849. The first town meeting was held April 3, the same year, at the house of D. R. Hyer, and thirty-five votes were polled, and the following officers were elected: Allan E. Adsit, chairman; Emery Sampson and George R. Fryer, supervisors; H. L. Foster, town clerk; Benjamin Potter, treasurer; and Martin W. Adsit, assessor.

Previous to, and during the early settlement, deer were very plenty, and when the sleighing was good, it was a favorite method to hunt with teams, and generally with good success, and so it was suggested that the town should be called Deerfield.

The first house put up in this town was on section 18, on the road from Madison to Milwaukee, by Philip Kearney. The work on the house was done by Judge N. F. Hyer and others. It was intended for a half-way house between Madison and Aztalan, and is said to have been occupied only a short time; but by whom, we have been unable to ascertain. The house was built in the summer of 1839, soon after those long

corduroy bridges were finished across the marshes, in the eastern part of the town. The lumber for this house was drawn from Lake Mills, by B. Ingraham, who afterwards settled in the town; but not having a permanent occupant, it was in a short time ruined, and carried off piecemeal.

Judge Hyer, one of the oldest settlers, has courteously furnished the following exceedingly interesting letter, which we quote in full, and wish he had given us a still further resumé of his early Wisconsin history. He resided in Wisconsin from 1836 until 1849, when he left for the South, on account of ill health, residing most of the time in New Orleans. He still continues to cherish a deep interest in everything that relates to the settlement of Wisconsin, both past and present. He writes:

In the fall of 1837, Capt. Stansbury, with Lieuts. J. D. Webster and Charles Hagner, of the U. S. Engineer Department, came to Milwaukee for the purpose of expending an appropriation by the government in making a road from Milwaukee to Madison, on the most direct and practicable route. They being unacquainted with the country, Capt. Stansbury sent for me, then residing at Aztalan, to come and pilot them through, which I did. On arriving at Aztalan and finding comfortable accommodations at the house of Thomas Brayton, Esq., who had recently arrived, and discovering it to be very impracticable to ride through on the route to Madison, on account of the impassable marshes, I was employed to make the survey through, which I did, but not without some suffering, as there was some nine miles of the way so surrounded with marsh that it was impossible to get on with team or pack horse, so we had to take on our backs the tent, camp equipage, provisions, etc. The day was cold, and we had to wade streams and marshes, and, before reaching the point selected for camping, my pantaloons became frozen to my boots, my boots to my stockings, and

stockings to my feet, and my feet, as a matter of course, became somewhat cold, but the sensation was rather that of pain than cold. We soon had a rousing fire; I cut the boots from my feet, and spent most of the night in making moccasins for use the next day. My assistants did not appear to suffer so much. We soon found ourselves tolerably comfortable, and, after partaking of a hearty meal, hastily cooked, began to feel quite well again, and turned in for the night, but soon the sensation of thirst came upon us, when we realized the fact that we had not with us a pail or bucket to get water from the stream (Koshkonong creek) which was near by. One offered to go and get the water, if he had anything to bring it in; another offered his boots for buckets; this being the best we could do under the circumstances, was adopted, and we were thus enabled to quench our thirst. The next day we succeeded in reaching Madison.

## Why the Half-way House was built:

The next season, in October, 1839, Philip Kearney, a gentleman residing in the city of New York, father of Gen. Phil. Kearney, of the U. S. army, who was killed in the rebellion, sent his nephew P. J. Kearney with an introductory letter requesting me to assist in locating some land in Wisconsin. I started with him for Madison, on his way to Mineral Point, where the Land Office was then kept. Our new road not being then opened, we went by way of Sun Prairie, where lived three brothers, by the name of Lawrence, in a small cabin, who entertained travelers as well as they could; there we arrived about one o'clock, tired and hungry; we wanted our horses fed and dinner for ourselves. We succeeded in getting feed for our horses, but for ourselves they had nothing but one wild goose; nothing to cook him with, and nothing to eat with him when cooked. Mr. K. wanted him roasted; so a fire was made, and the goose strung up for roasting. Those who have not watched the slow roasting of a turkey or goose, when very hungry, cannot realize our condition while watching and waiting for that goose. Mr. K. at length becoming impatient, asked me if I would not select a place on our new road about half way between Aztalan and Madison and have a double log house built where travelers could be accommodated. I told him I would, and did; and that is the way the first house in Deerfield was built. Mr. Philip Kearney paid for the land and the house.

It now occurs to me that of twenty men, including the three government engineers, assisting in making that survey, none are left

save Levi. P. Drake and John Starkweather, of Madison, and your humble servant, NATH. F. HYER.

The bridges or causeways mentioned above were built for the purpose of facilitating the travel across the marshes by the several stages, whose route lay through the town, and was done by the filling up of the marsh with every kind of brush and waste material found near by, and then large logs felled and laid across. In the wet season it frequently happened that the stages would drive over these causeways, with the water nearly up to the wheel hubs. The changes incident to the cultivation of the soil have materially affected these roads for the better, and they are now dry and substantial.

The first settlers in this town were Norwegians, and and the first Nels Siverson. He settled on section 35, and built a cabin in the spring of 1840. He is still living, but resides in Minnesota. In 1842, his brother Ole Siverson, settled on section 33, where he still continues to live. Lars Davidson settled on section 28, the same year, and is still in the town. In June, 1843, Colben Olson and his brother, Stork Olson, settled on section 30, and still continues to reside there; and about the same time, B. Ingraham and David R. Hyer, the first two Americans in the town, located together on section 9, where the village of Deerfield now is, built a tavern, which they conducted for some years, and then dissolved partnership, Mr. Hyer becoming the proprietor. For a number of years, it was the relay house for the old Milwaukee, Janesville,

Columbus and Madison four-horse stage, where fresh horses were exchanged going or returning, until the Chicago, Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad supplied their more expeditious route. The supplies for the stages were bought and kept here, the oats and hay being obtained from the surrounding farmers, and purchased by Mr. Hyer. Many a jolly load of passengers stopped at Hyer's for refreshments, and during the session of the legislature extra coaches had sometimes to be sent out, which made lively times for the tavern keepers. Mr. Hyer was the first postmaster in the town, and held the office as long as he lived here. He now resides in the town of Springfield, and has furnished us the following facts, which we feel certain are but as a drop, compared with the numerous incidents which he must have witnessed and known when he was mine host of the Relay tavern:

About the 1st of August, 1842, I commenced with a force of ten men to build a log house on Sec. 9, T. 7, R. 12 E. (now Deerfield), for the purpose of keeping a tavern for the accommodation of travelers, who were daily increasing in numbers, and within three weeks completed a substantial building, with six rooms. One night, during our stay, we were much annoyed by wolves, who had caught a deer and devoured it within a few rods from our encampment, small remains of which were found scattered about in the morning. At another time, they made an attack on our cattle, that were feeding near by, and caused a great commotion among them; they bellowed and ran together, the same as they do when they smell the blood of any of their number slain. None were killed, but many of them showed the marks of the teeth and claws of the wolves.

Soon after completing my log house I removed therein, and was appointed postmaster, and the place was duly christened "Deerfield." I built my stables for the accommodation of forty or more horses, and made additions to my house as occasion required, until

the ground floor covered a space of 44 by 74 feet, and could conveniently accommodate forty or more persons with lodging; and a dancing hall 32 by 25 feet, where parties, often from a distance of twenty-five miles, came for recreation.

In addition to the mail route from Milwaukee to Madison, a new route was soon established from Janesville to Columbus, with two-horse coaches, *via* Deerfield. The staging on the Milwaukee and Madison line increased to two daily post coaches, and often two or three extras, and the demand for oats to feed teams, purchased and furnished by me, amounted to from 5,000 to 7,000 bushels annually for five years. The oats were all raised within a radius of ten miles of my house. This much was accomplished about fifteen years from the first survey through the wilderness.

The settlers spoken of were only the beginning of more extensive immigration. Lars Torgerson settled here in 1842, and still remains. Charles and Martin Adsits settled in 1845, while Allan E. Adsits and family came in 1846. For four or five years after the first settlement, the town increased in population very rapidly, and has continued to do so up to the present. In 1875, when the census was taken, the population in the town was 906, the largest proportion of which were of foreign birth, such as Norwegians, Germans and Irish.

The only streams of any importance are Koshkonong and Mud creeks. The first named enters the town on section 19, and flows easterly into the large expanse of water known as Krogh's Mill Pond, which covers a portion of sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23 and 24, leaving the town on the last section. The pond has been the source of litigation between the mill-owner and the property owners on the edge of the pond, in consequence of the large amount of land submerged. The

current is very slow on this stream, so that it gives no water-power in the town, though over the line in Jefferson county there is a mill privilege. Mud Creek enters on section 34, and empties into the pond on section 27.

The surface of this town is gently undulating. A portion of Liberty Prairie, lying within the southwestern part, is included within its boundaries. The southeastern part of the town is prairie and openings. the northwestern part, bare openings; and the northeast part, heavy timber, with more or less marsh. This timber land was entered by the early settlers in the adjoining towns for timber lots; but as it is now cut off, the land is cleared for agricultural purposes. We have, in the southwestern part, excellent stone quarries, both limestone and sandstone.

Some years ago, there was a saw-mill built on section 20, by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Knudson; but just as it was ready to run, the dam broke, and it was never repaired, as the country being extremely level, the damage caused by overflowing was very great.

Along these streams are excellent hay marshes, as good as any in the county. In the northeastern part of the town, some of the marshes will, in course of time, be valuable for the cultivation of cranberries. In this part of the town there is a large pond, which is called "Goose Pond," from the great number of these birds frequenting here. Hunters find abundance of duck also, and in the fall of the year it is very much patronized.

In educational matters, we have achieved very satisfactory results. We have five good schoolhouses, a number of joint-districts, and some private schools. There are in the town three churches, one Lutheran, Rev. J. A. Ottesen, pastor; one Evangelical Lutheran, Rev. Rasmus O. Hill, pastor; and the other, Roman Catholic, Rev. Father Maher. Each one have regular service performed by their respective pastors.

There are two postoffices in town, one in the village of Deerfield, Henry Bennett, postmaster; and the other at Nora, near the stone church, on Liberty Prairie, Andrew A. Prescott, postmaster; mail triweekly. In the village there is one store kept by Charles Mayer; two blacksmiths shops kept by H. Bennett and Mr. Seeley; and a good hotel kept by Mr. Benj. Baldwin.

For years, wheat has been the principal crop raised, but of late, our best farmers have engaged more in what is called mixed farming, raising of stock, and seeding down their land. In 1876, the acreage of the different kinds of crops was as follows: Timothy and clover, 227 acres; wheat, 2,710; oats, 1,078; corn, 1,045; barley, 1,387; rye, 94; hops, 21; tobacco, 30.

The facilities for marketing our produce in this town are, on the whole, quite convenient. Marshall and Waterloo are on the north, Jefferson and Fort Atkinson on the east; Stoughton and McFarland on the south and west, so that if we have no railroads, we have the consolation that we have ready access to market. The town has no bonded indebtedness.

## CROSS PLAINS.

BY HENRY WINKLE, Esq.

The town of Cross Plains, or town No. 7, north of range No. 7 east, is situated just fifteen miles west of Madison. The town was first settled in 1840, by Edward, Hugh and John Campbell. They were soon followed by John W. Thomas, Berry Haney, Francis Wilson, Thomas Arland and Sylvester Bell, who settled in the northern part, and William and Samuel Showers, Ripha Warden, Sidney Morgan, Jno. H. Clark, George P. Thompson, William Howry and David B. Carden, the last gentleman still a resident of the town, in the southern part.

The organization and first town meeting was held on the 6th day of April, 1847, and Ripha Warden, Ira Campbell and Jno. H. Clark were elected *supervisors;* Berry Haney, *clerk;* William Showers, *treasurer;* William Howry, *assessor.* Four school districts were organized. Shortly afterwards schools were opened and teachers supplied.

The town received its name from two military roads — one from Galena to Fort Winnebago, and the other from Prairie du Chien to Green Bay — crossing on a plain or piece of prairie land, about the middle of the town, and hence the name "Cross Plains."

The town was a favorite hunting ground among the Indians, and was also noted as the residence of Robert Steele, a hunter and trapper, who, as the town became settled, moved away to some other place more suited for his business. In 1845, John Howry came from Virginia and settled on section 19, where he still continues to reside.

A great deal of suffering was endured among the early settlers, especially among those who came late in the season. Some were obliged to hunt for roots and herbs to sustain them until harvest brought them their grain, which they carried to Madison to be sold, or rather exchanged, for what was then called *store goods*. Their grists were taken to Pokerville, in Iowa county, about fifteen or twenty miles distant, and sometimes a great deal farther, if they were unfortunate in finding the mill undergoing repair.

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad crosses the town on the north, and the Madison, Mineral Point, or Madison and Dodgeville stage road, crosses on the south. The population of the town is about 1,500.

The northern part of the town is laid out in three villages, of which the first is Cross Plains. It was platted by the Baer Brothers, who kept a general stock of merchandise suitable for a country store. John, one of the brothers, is still doing an excellent business. Adrian Virnig has a grocery and saloon; Engel Uebersetzig, saloon and public hall; Joseph Marx, blacksmith; and Peter Schut, wagon maker. Near-

ly opposite John Baer's there is a neat Catholic Church, built in the Gothic style, and with a parsonage attached for the use of the pastor, Rev. John Friedl, and a large building for the use of the parish and parochial school, which is taught by two of the sisters. Toward the northeast part of the village the Hon. Peter Zander, a wealthy and prosperous farmer, and our ex assemblyman of 1876, has his farm.

The next village is Christina, platted in 1856, by P. L. Mohr, Esq., then living in Madison, who had selected this spot for a village, on account of the loveliness of scenery it presented, and gave it its present name in honor of his wife. The Indians, in early times, had their wigwams raised there, and visited it often for a number of years after the white faces had taken possession of it. The three story stone grist mill at this village was built in 1858, by Oscar Mohr and Dr. Francis Fisher, who also erected a number of dwelling houses, and carried on a farming and milling business for eight years. A. Dederich and Charles Herman kept hotel in the village in those times. Herman Zinkeisen, who afterwards perished on the ill-fated steamer "Schiller," carried on the first and most extensive general store and produce business in the village, which he afterwards sold out to R. Pickhardt. In 1856 the mill was sold to A. Kimball, who ran it for three years, and then sold it to Gustave Hering, who put in steam power. Besides being in the milling business, he is largely engaged in

the sale of agricultural implements of every description, and adds to his extensive business both energy and thrift. Herman J. Dahmen is located on the opposite side from the mill, and has a general stock of merchandise, with a saloon attached; then there is Cross Plains postoffice and harness shop, kept and owned by F. H. Fredericks, who is doing a lucrative business, and whose handsome princely residence is a short distance from the store. Next comes Michael Stricker, hardware store and lumber yard; Edward Lampman, general merchandise store; and two thrifty blacksmiths, Charles Brendler and Chr. Koch, with Ph. Baerenklau, as wagon maker. There have recently been erected two new district school houses two stories high, where the higher and lower branches of education will be taught.

The next village is Foxville, platted in 1857, by Abijah Fox, one of the oldest settlers of the town, then a farmer, on whose land the depot was located. Mr. Fox bought and shipped the first bushel of wheat from that station, in his block warehouse. Joseph Virnig and Louis Saemann each keep a saloon here, while the Brendler Hotel, owned and kept by Michael Brendler, is widely known among commercial travelers as a first class hotel, and where mine host, Michael, seeks to make his guests comfortable and at home. William Marxs keeps the blacksmith shop; and Carl Jacobi, a first class store of general merchandise.

Looking from the depot toward the northern bor-

der of the town, in the vicinity of Black Earth village, is a large rift of bare rocks, and going south about four miles, you find yourself on a small hill in the center of the town, on the farm of John Laufenbery, an old settler and wealthy farmer; and still farther on you behold the valley of Pine Bluff, one of the richest valleys in the town, about three miles square, and a perfect picture in beauty of landscape. It is called the "Ridge."

Pine Bluff is a solid ledge of high rocks, on the top of which grow quite a number of fine pine trees, a scarcity in this part of the country, which gives the valley quite a romantic aspect, and from which it takes its name.

The Sugar river rises in the southwest corner of of the town, on section 32, and passes through sections 33, 34 and 35, in an eastern direction, into the town of Springdale, in the northeast corner. There is a branch or spring that rises on section 27 and unites on section 35. Near where it enters the town of Springdale is the Mormon Baptismal Pond. In the early history of the town several Mormons settled here, and the whole neighborhood for years were kept in a fevered excitement by the Sunday carnivals they often held George P. Thompson, T. S. Lloyd and George Harlow were some of the leaders among them. George was a son of old Isaiah Harlow, whose grave is in the beautiful burying ground on the hill that is overshadowed with the grove of trees, on Jeremiah Murphy's farm, section 31. There are several

of this family buried here, as seen by the neat gray slabs or headstones that mark their last resting place. These graves are designated by some of the neighbors (but by mistake) as those of the Mormons. The only member of the family who became a Mormon was the son George, but who afterwards renounced and would have nothing to do with them. Near this same spot is the grave of Mrs. Odell, whose sudden and mysterious death filled the neighborhood with amazement.

In approaching the town of Cross Plains from the east, on the Madison and Mineral Point road, we come to the dividing ridge or ancient beach, so well defined and preserved as to be observed by every student of geology. This beach, or ancient sea shore on this road, comes within ten rods of the east line of the town of Cross Plains. On its summit there is yet to be seen an old log, behind which Ebenezer Brigham (the first white settler of Dane county) and Zach. Taylor (ex-President of United States), slept all night.

From the highest part of this ridge, on the Mineral Point road, we have one of the finest landscapes presented to our view that can perhaps be found anywhere in our state, taking in the beautiful valley in which the head waters of Sugar river rise. This valley is surrounded on all sides by the dividing ridge and its spurs, except an opening of about forty rods on the southeast, through which Sugar river flows. There is a painting now in the land office at Wash-

ington, D. C., taken from a point on this ridge near where the Mineral Point road descends into the valley, which is pronounced by good judges as being the finest landscape painting in that department. It was made by a celebrated English artist, and takes in the valley with its undulating prairie, the surrounding hills, and the Blue Mounds in the distance.

Any one approaching this valley from the east during one of our beautiful summer evening sunsets, and who may have paused to view this landscape, presenting miles of the most gorgeous and grand scenery, must have been convinced, as the English artist was, that here was a view worthy to be transferred to canvas by any artist.

Politically the town is democratic. During the late rebellion, on the first call for men, it sent twenty-two, of whom Hubert Kremer died in the hospital, while most of the others served through the war. It furnished its full quota of men, so that no draft ever occurred with us.

St. Mary's Catholic Church is built on a small hill near the bluff, and attached to it, is a parsonage and the sisters' house. There is also a new district school, where John Loehrer keeps store and saloon; William Cullen, of the Pine Bluff tavern and blacksmith shop, and well known as a veterinary surgeon. Henry Winkle is postmaster, and the mail is distributed about four times a week. [Mr. Winkle has filled the office of postmaster very acceptably for over seven years. He keeps store and has a general stock of

merchandise. Besides being engaged in business, he has also a farm.]

Mr. James Bonner lives in the first house built in the town, and known as the old stage house, and which for many years was occupied by Edward Campbell as the relay house for the stages between Madison and Mineral Point.

The Hon. Matt. M. Anderson is one of the leading farmers in our town, owning about 350 acres of the best land in the valley. His farm is known by the name of "Anderson's Willow Grove Stock Farm." He is largely engaged in the raising of stock, and has also a large dairy, from which he manufactures a very choice butter, and ships direct to the Philadelphia market. In 1871 he was member of Assembly for our district. James Farrell, Richard Farrell, M. Casey, Henry J. Bollig, Jacob Kalscheuer, Joseph Wallraff, Jeremiah and Ed. Murphy are some of the leading farmers and stock raisers in the southwestern part of the town.

The present town officers are: Henry J. Bollig, chairman, Jerry Murphy and Joseph Schaefer, as *Supervisors;* Henry Winkle, *Clerk;* Bernard Bollig, *Treasurer;* J. A. Mueller, *Assessor.*

The town has seven substantially built school houses.

## FITCHBURG.

BY DR. WILLIAM H. FOX AND WILLIAM VROMAN.

Fitchburg postoffice and election precinct were established and named about 1841, at the suggestion of that respected and esteemed pioneer patriarch, Ebenezer Brigham, of Blue Mounds. The precinct included the townships of land that now constitute the towns of Oregon, Fitchburg, Dunn, and, I think, Rutland; the place for holding elections and postoffice, at Wm. Quivey's, half a mile south of what is now called Oak Hall, in the town of Fitchburg. There were only ten or twelve voters in the precinct at that time, and no laid-out road except the old territorial road to Hume's Ferry and Janesville, which went by what is now ex-Governor Washburne's place, and round the head of Lake Wingra or Dead Lake, and then through Stoner's Prairie and southeast to Fitchburg postoffice, continuing southeast on the ridge dividing the waters running to the Catfish from those of Sugar river. The old Daniel Baxter road, so called at that time, ran from the south part of Green county to Madison *via* where the village of Albany on Sugar river now stands, intersecting the former a little south-east of Fitchburg postoffice, and the lead teamster's road from Mineral Point to Milwaukee intersecting it on Stoner's Prairie, east of these roads to Catfish or Yahara

river, and west to Sugar river. The country was then uninhabited. An Indian trail which ran from their village, at the head of lake Kegonsa, crossed Sugar river, where the village of Bellville now stands, and went on, I think, to Prairie du Chien. This trail crossed the territorial road a little south of Fitchburg Postoffice, and was the principal guide east to the Catfish or west to Sugar river. Towards that river the country was then all oak openings, some hilly, clear of undergrowth, so that it was easy to drive in any direction. Towards Catfish the country was more level, small prairies and oak openings clear of underbrush, the land undulating and mostly a good soil.

In the fall of 1842, Geo. Fox and I, when looking land to locate on, left the trail near where the Cemetery now stands, on the prairie north of the present village of Oregon. We switched off to the north through the woods, to see what we could find, and pretty soon the woods began to look all the same. We were lost, and as the day wore on and we drove pretty fast we began to have a regular frontier appetite. After several hours we brought up at a hunters' camp, where a great many deer and wild duck were hanging on the trees close by. The hunters were absent, but we soon made ourselves at home, and, finding a little bread in a bag, fried some venison steak, and had a delicious dinner, with a drink from the spring near at hand. That spring is the Mr. Murphy spring, close by the road at Lake View, and

only about two miles from where we left the trail. We got back to the prairie by following the Lake View stream on the south side, to the pass through the hills where the railroad now runs, and soon made our way to the Fitchburg Postoffice, which was also a hotel, kept by Wm. Quivey, where we met the hunters, Messrs. Hume and Postle, from Hume's Ferry, on Rock river, at whose camp we dined. They invited us to call again, and all had a good laugh at our getting lost in the woods.

There were then, I think, but Jos. Vroman's and three other families, in what is the present town of Fitchburg.

In the spring of 1843, Geo. Fox and myself commenced to break up and improve the lands on which we still reside. John and Geo. Keenan also commenced to improve farms close by us, and Messrs. Wm. True, Pritchard and Nott purchased lands to locate on. That summer, many eastern people came out here viewing lands. They liked the climate, soil and general face of the country; but thought it very far to a mill or blacksmith shop. We had no church or school, and few roads so they could not stand it. Our nearest mills were Mr. Hickcox's, in Ridgeway, Iowa county, Beloit, and Columbus, either one about forty miles distant. The nearest blacksmith shop was at Madison, a long road round the head of Lake Wingra, and and the smith not always in a working mood, so that we often had to improvise a shop to sharpen our breaking plows, by heating the share in a fire made

of chips, and beating it out on the heads of iron wedges driven in a log.

In the fall of 1844, Badger Mill was built by Joseph Vroman, with his brothers George and William, the first settlers of Fitchburg, and William A. Wheeler, of Verona. They gave a large party to celebrate the occasion, and the people for many miles around assembled. The Scotch settlement on Sugar river was largely represented, and Billy Ray played the Highland bagpipes, and the "Highland Fling" was danced to perfection by many a lad and lassie, who are now grandfathers and grandmothers. The mill was a great convenience to the surrounding country, until the stream dried up (it has now been dry for several years). Joseph Vroman owned the first reaping machine used in the town, about 1847. What the early settlers lacked in many of the conveniences, of life, they made up in self reliance and that kind of genial good neighborship that is usually found among the pioneers. They were hospitable, cordial, ready to do each other a good turn, and were not much troubled with those kind of cast iron conventionalities which take the heart out of social intercourse. They had few elements of discord among them; no pimps; no whiners; and had not the fostering care of that self-sacrificing class of people, whose principal occupation is attending to other people's business, and repenting for other people's sins. In the summer and fall of '44–5, settlers began to come in and buy up lands pretty fast. Some were very poor and could not buy,

but would claim or "squat," as we called it, on a piece of land, and the earlier settlers to a man stood up for those poor fellows to protect them in their claims, and keep new comers from buying the lands, or "jumping their claims," as it was called. The Fitchburg Mutual Protection Society was organized for that purpose; had a regular book for each claimer to come and register his claim in, and any person jumping such claim would be called to account by the society, which, in this neighborhood, always resulted in having the land restored to the first claimant. Some of our most thrifty, honest and respected citizens got their present homes in that way.

Deer were still very plenty here in fall of '44. One of our neighbors had a dog that caught a large buck by the hind leg, and by some means worried him towards the house; the woman of the house, on seeing the deer approach, sallied out with an axe and succeeded in dispatching him. Joseph Fox, now of Oregon, happening to be pass by at the time, assisted the woman in taking care of the carcass. That same fall there were a great many bears prowling about.

Mrs. Geo. Keenan was spending the day at Geo. Fox's; in the afternoon she started for home, about one and a half miles distant, carrying an infant in her arms; about half a mile from her house she met a full grown bear on the path. She would not turn out of the path into the tall prairie grass, lest she might trip and fall; neither would the bear turn out, but raised himself up for the usual mode of saluta-

tion, and as they met, placed his paws over Mrs. K.'s neck. Mustering all possible strength, she held the baby tight with her left arm, with her right dealt the bear a blow on the side of the head, and springing back at the same time, got clear from him; she then took off her sun bonnet and flung it on the path, which he stopped to smell and shake in his mouth, and thus enabled her to get some distance ahead. But soon the bear caught up again and raised for a charge. Mrs. K. turned and faced him, when with an angry growl he caught her, and put one paw on the baby, causing it to cry. She struck him as before, and sprang back, pulling the baby, while the bear also pulled, tearing off its cloak, and then began shaking it in his mouth, while Mrs. K. again ran for the house, which she gained just in time to save another attack. The next morning the neighborhood turned out to hunt for the bear; did not find the old one, but found two cubs in a thicket not far from the house.

The Fitchburg election precinct was merged in the organization of the town of Rome, A. D. 1845 or 6, which included the present towns of Oregon, Dunn and Fitchburg, and was named Rome by some of the settlers from New York state. A road having been laid out from Rooney's on the old territorial road, running north to Madison, also one from near Rock county line running northwest to Fitchburg Post-office, these roads crossed where the present village of Oregon now stands, and it being not far from the

corners of said towns, it was called Rome Corners, and is yet known by that name.

The town managed its own local affairs; three commissioners the county business. At that time the settlers were mostly unacquainted with the luxury of a county training school for legislative aspirants and other tax-eating systems; consequently their taxes were light — about $1,600 in the town of Rome for all purposes — although roads had to be laid out and bridges and court house had to be built. I was the first treasurer of the town, and as both myself and the town supervisors were a little muddy on the law, I concluded to strike out of my bond the word "law" and insert "justice," according to the best of my judgment. The supervisors did not like to accept that bond, but one of them, Mr. Boise, father of the present Mr. Reuben, of Oregon, said although it was a sort of a Hibernian pioneer bond, yet he thought it would be all right, and they finally accepted it. At that time it was the duty of town school supervisors to meet on a certain Tuesday in April to apportion the school money to the several districts. They met on the wrong day and concluded they could not legally apportion the money. Several young ladies had taught school and they wanted their pay. The money was in the treasury, but there seemed to be no legal way to get it out; then the bond came to the relief of the girls. I suggested that if any school trustee would state in writing that the girls had taught school and were justly entitled to their

pay, that I would pay them on receipt of such statement. It was procured, and the girls were paid, to their great joy and satisfaction.

About that time an amusing incident occurred, showing the vague and erroneous ideas which prevailed to some extent in the eastern states regarding the western frontiersmen. A man from Massachusetts came out to see the country and some land in this town that he had bought without previously seeing. He came to my house to pay some tax due on his land, and asked to see my books to learn the amount. I took from a bureau drawer a large shot bag containing the town money and papers, untied the string and took out a copy of the tax list. With an astonished look he asked if that was the only book, and if I was in truth the town treasurer. I replied that the settlers were mostly poor and did not care to buy anything that they could just as well do without, and showed him how I kept the account. I put the whole amount of money received into the bag, and when it was paid out I put the voucher into the bag, so the account always balanced. He appeared confused and frightened; said it might be all right, but he never saw business done in that way; would prefer to go to Madison before paying his taxes. My house was a log one, and located in the woods, in a lonely place, and he evidently thought that he had got into a trap, for after leaving my house he tried to hire an escort to Madison for fear of being followed and robbed. At Madison he

found it was all right, then returned and paid his tax.

In 1847 or 8, the town of Rome was divided, and the present town of Fitchburg organized as the town of Greenfield, which name collided with Greenfield in Milwaukee county, and caused some mistakes in mail matters, so it was proposed to change the name of Greenfield, in Dane county, to Fitchburg, the name of the post-office, and which it still retains. The first town meeting was held at the house of Mr. William Quivey, near Fitchburg Corners.

There are nine district schools in town, and two churches. The one on section 35 is Roman Catholic, Rev. Father Butler, pastor; the other, on Syene Prairie, Methodist Episcopal.

### FITCHBURG — BY WILLIAM VROMAN.

Town 6, range 9, town of Fitchburg, is situated in the central and southern part of Dane county, bounded north by the town of Madison, west by the town of Verona, south by the town of Oregon, and east by the town of Dunn. It is one of the best agricultural towns in the county, with very little or no waste lands, about equally divided between prairie and oak openings. The soil is very rich and climate healthy. There are several creeks and springs, of which the Nine Springs, situated in the northeast part of the town, are justly celebrated. In a distance of some sixty rods, nine springs start out of the highlands on the edge of the marsh, and form a creek which

empties into Third lake, giving sufficient water to carry a mill. Upon this site the State Fish Hatchery House is now located, and a splendid location it is for the purpose designed, having plenty of pure spring water, and a fall of some fifteen or twenty feet to the marsh, and no danger from overflow or freshets. It seems designed by nature for the purpose now used. The state has erected elegant buildings, and the institution is in successful operation.

In 1837 the first farm was opened in the town by John Stoner, on section 17. Stoner's Prairie was named after him. He never lived upon the farm, but resided in the then village of Madison. He went out to the farm on Monday mornings and took his rations with him for the week. He erected a shanty, open on three sides, covered with oak shakes, which turned most of the rain; a fire in front on the ground for cooking purposes; a bundle of straw and blankets; a few camp stools, constituted the furniture in this cabin, in which he managed to keep open house. Many a weary traveler and visitor has partaken of his hospitality, and many a night has the writer of this slept with him in this improvised house, open upon three sides, and nothing but the broad canopy of shakes.

The first settlers in the town were George Vroman, Joseph Vroman and William Vroman, in 1839. They opened a farm on sections 17 and 20, south of and adjoining the Stoner farm, and in the fall of that year built a log house and moved there. This was the first house built between Madison and New Mexico,

now Monroe. They were quickly followed by Dr. William H. Fox, George Fox, Joseph Fox, James Fox, Rev. Matthew Fox, and the Rev. Wm. Fox, their father, (from County Westmeatte, Ireland), William Quivey, Willam True, George and John Keenan, P. Pritchard, —— Postle, Frank Nott, the Salisburys, Charles and John Watkins. These were the pioneers of the town of Fitchburg; good, generous, true hearted men, just the men to open up a new country; men that you could tie to; that believed in the golden rule; men of whom you never asked a favor in vain; you were welcome to their homes, and their latch strings always hung out.

The times were hard, the people were poor, and they voted to pay their officers fifty cents per day. The writer of this [Wm. Vroman, Esq.] was elected road commissioner (an office now consolidated with the supervisor), and has now a realizing sense of the labor performed for the money received. Three towns to travel over, to lay out into road districts, appoint path masters, make out warrants, and lay out roads. I spent twenty days in the service of the town, for which I brought in a bill of seven dollars, and the town board cut me down to four dollars. Four dollars for twenty days' work! Well, the people were poor, and they said we must take turns in holding office. If the politicians of the present day were paid as *liberally*, they would not be as anxious for office. The next year the town was separately organized as the town of Greenfield, so named on account of its green grasses and

fields. It retained this name for two or three years, when it was found that there was a town in Milwaukee county of the same name, which had prior claim to the name, and as two towns of the same name in the state made some confusion in postal matters, the name was altered to Fitchburg. Our nearest grist mill, in 1839, was at Hickox, on Wisconsin river, now Helena, some thirty miles distant. But mills soon sprung up all around us, so that at Fulton, Rock county, Cookville, Dayton and Badger Mills, four miles west of us in Verona, we had them somewhat nearer. The commerce of the country at this early day was mostly carried on by Sucker team, a large Pennsylvania wagon with from four to six yoke of oxen to haul it. We called them prairie schooners, and they used to go in fleets, sometimes as many as eight or ten wagons together. These covered wagons going over the prairie at a distance, resembled very much a fleet of schooners, hence the name. Their principal loading on the journey to Lake Michigan was lead, and the back freight sundry goods for our merchants. They carried with them long goad poles, some ten feet long, and a lash to correspond; you could hear the crack of their whip for a mile away. They were the kings of the roads. Everything had to give way for them, until stage coaches were put upon the road, when the drivers got long stretches with knives in the end, and raked their teams, sending them bellowing from the road, which caused them to give the stage coaches a wide berth.

In those early days, before the preëmption laws were passed, the settlers formed claim clubs for the protection of those that were not able to enter their lands. In the fall of 1844, I attended a meeting of one of their clubs, near where George Fox now lives. The circumstances were as follows: Two men claimed the same forty of land, one belonged to the club while the other did not; the man that did not belong to the club having obtained the money first, entered the land. A committee of the club waited upon him and insisted on his deeding the land over to the first claimant; refusing to do so, they then called a meeting of the club, and notified him that they would meet at his house on a certain night, and use such persuasive arguments as would induce him to deed over the land. He remained stubborn, so the club met at his house in the evening, some fifty strong, with axes and guns. They surrounded his house in a rather noisy manner, and a committee, sufficient to fill his house, entered with a justice of the peace, the money, deed and all made out; he finally came down gracefully, by signing the deed, and taking the money, and then acknowledging that he signed the deed of his own free will and accord, without fear, favor, or intimidation, although surrounded by some fifty noisy men, threatening all manner of things. I do not think the deed was worth much, but it was never contested, and I think in the end justice was done. Some societies were organized on the principle of letting those that came in and entered claims, severely alone, agreeing to

neither borrow, lend, or associate with them, which soon brought them to terms.

I think that Dr. Wm. H. Fox was the first practicing physician in Dane county outside of Madison, and had a most extensive practice of thirty or forty miles ride, which was done on horseback. I have heard him say that he has ridden many a rainy day, until his boots were filled with water. He was ready at all times to render assistance, either as doctor or friend, and one of our most valuable citizens.

Some of the early settlers came into the county in large wagons drawn by oxen. The wagons were covered, and whole families with their household goods would travel in this way until they located. They had a long rope attached to the oxen, and their stock tied on each side of the rope, with a yoke of cattle or horses hitched to the end of the rope to keep them straight. There were also what we called emigrants who came by land. Others would come in wagons, move upon their land, turn their wagon-box upside down, and sleep under it; while others would set boards around a tree and move in and cook their meals outside in true camping style, and live in this way with no rent or hotel bills to pay, until they could build their log houses. Others would join in with their friends until they could make provision for themselves. Log houses were very elastic in those days — they were like an omnibus, never full, but always room for one more.

The settlers in these early times were very friendly

helping each other in all things requiring assistance, and would go almost any distance to help. I recollect being at the raising of a large barn, in 1839, in the town of Cross Plains, on what was known as the Campbell Farm, near where Mr. Anderson now resides. I think it was the first frame barn raised on a farm in Dane county. It was a large barn and required a good many men to help in raising it. They came from a distance of twenty-five or thirty miles around, from Madison, Sauk, Blue Mounds, and Ridgeway, Iowa county, and a right jolly set of men they were, when they got together on such an occasion.

There were but very few settlers then. I think there were only six farms opened in Dane county at this time. In the fall of 1839, there was an election held in the county, for county officers, and only about eighty votes polled, which also included Sauk county. I remember attending a Fourth of July celebration, in 1845, in the Scotch settlement in the town of Verona; the attendance was from the towns around. The programme was for fun generally, and we had it. Rifle shooting for sheep, home-made Scotch whisky and beer, playing base ball, dancing the "Highland fling" on the green, with Billy Ray and his bagpipes for music. We had more real enjoyment than can be had at any celebration at the present day. But as the mixing of Scotch whisky and beer did not agree with all, some went home with a brick in their hat.

## DANE.

BY ROBERT STEELE AND MANSFIELD ARRIES.

The town of Dane is situated in the northwestern part of Dane county, being town No. 9 north, range No. 8 east.

The town of Dane derived its name from the old Dane postoffice.

The surface of the town is quite rolling, and in a few places there are precipitous bluffs. When in its natural state, the town was about equally divided between prairie and timber land, the principal part of the prairie being in the eastern and the timber in the western. The greater part of the town is quite destitute of water. The only stream of water has its source on section eight, and running in a northeasterly direction, crosses the county line near the northeast corner of section four, being the stream on which the Lodi Mills are situated. In some respects this is a remarkable stream, and it is doubtful if any other stream in the county can equal it. Its principal source is what is known as the "big spring," and this alone furnishes fully one-half of the water that drives Mr. Andrews' mill at Lodi, only three miles distant, the stream being fed entirely by springs, from which it derives its name, "Spring Creek," and is not affected by the severest drought, but furnishes a uniform

supply of water the year round. The bottom lands along this stream are of the best quality for growing various kinds of grasses, very little being marshy or too wet to be drained with trifling expense, and thus be made the best meadow land in the state. These bottom lands along this creek and a small portion of sections 34 and 35 are the only wet lands in the town. The scarcity of water and the great depth at which wells had to be sunk, was a drawback to the early settlement of the town. Many of the wells are from one to two hundred feet deep, and dug through a hard sandstone rock, but the method of drilling, and the use of windmills have almost entirely overcome what at one time seemed to be an insurmountable difficulty. Now almost every farmer has an abundant supply of pure cold water, which is brought to the surface with but little expense.

The quality of the soil is of the very best for agricultural purposes, being a dark brown loam, from two to twelve feet in depth. In the timbered portion of the town the soil is a heavy clay loam, and very productive. About seventy-five per cent. of the land is now under cultivation. The remaining twenty-five is the rough or hilly portion of the town, which is covered with a dense second growth of timber, that, if not wantonly destroyed, will furnish an abundant supply of timber for the future. These rough and bluffy lands present to the casual observer an aspect not the most pleasing, and it must be admitted they are a drawback to the town, yet they are

not an entire waste, for had they all been tillable they would doubtless have all been brought under cultivation, and left the town destitute of timber, and perhaps made water scarcer than heretofore. There is another advantage derived from them, that is the abundance of limestone they contain. A good quarry can be found on almost any section in the town containing an inexhaustable quantity of stone of the very best quality for building purposes.

Wheat was the staple product of the town for the first twenty years, covering a period of time from 1850 to 1870. During this time there were but few failures of the crop, and all that was requried of the husbandman was to break up the virgin soil, sow the seed, and a bountiful harvest was insured. For seven or eight years this crop has been less cultivated, and it is doubtful if the wheat crop of the town for three years back has paid expenses. As the continual droping wears the rock, so the continual cropping of wheat has so exhausted the soil, or those properties of it which are necessary to its growth, that a paying crop was very uncertain. The system of farming has undergone a great change in the last few years, mixed husbandry being adopted by nearly all. The raising of stock and the dairy products are the leading features of farming at the present time, and promise to be very successful. The soil is well adapted to the growth of clover and other grasses, never failing to produce a bountiful crop, except in cases of severe drouths. Corn, oats and barley produce good crops

under ordinary circumstances. A large portion of the grain is fed out on the farm, and the farmers are beginning to realize that by keeping stock their lands are rapidly increasing in the productiveness of such crops as are required for stock raisers, and which, during the past eight years have done much toward the improvement of cattle, hogs and sheep.

A cheese factory has been in successful operation at Dane station, for three years, manufacturing the milk of 250 cows, and averaging 65,000 to 70,000 pounds of cheese annually. There is also another, more recently started, adjoining the Wm. T. Leitch farm, by George R. Hoisington, which is being very favorably patronized.

Fruit has received considerable attention, but not with the most flattering results. A few of the hardy varieties do well and pay for cultivation. Small fruits are cultivated to some extent, and with a fair degree of success, doing much better than the apple or pear.

It is always interesting to recall the scenes of early life, although it may have been one of toil, privation and hardship. We like to think of the past and talk of the thrilling events connected with it. The old soldier likes to dwell on the past, and repeat the incidents connected with his life, while the sailor loves to recall the perils of the deep. But in no department of life can we find anything of more interest than we find in the pioneers of our country. We like to see the man that built the first cabin in any town, county or state; that struck the first blow in opening up our

country to civilization; that took the first step in the organization of civil government.

This honor must be accredited to Freedom Simons, the first settler of the town of Dane. He, with his family, consisting of his wife and children, immigrated from Cayuga county, N. Y., landing in Milwaukee on the 6th day of September, 1842. To give the reader something of an idea of the privations and hardships which the early settlers endured, we will give a few incidents in the life of this pioneer family.

Arriving at Milwaukee on board a steamer which came to anchor at a considerable distance from shore (there being no docks or piers), they were taken on board a lighter and landed safely where the city of Milwaukee now stands. One small warehouse accommodated all the freight business of the state at that point. After landing, Mr. Simons set to work to find means of conveyance from Milwaukee to Prairie du Sac, the place of his destination. At that time there were no public means of conveyance; no horse teams to be had, so he chartered what was known in those days as a "Sucker team," which consisted of five yoke of oxen. After six days travel, he reached the place of his destination.

In the spring of 1843, he settled in what is now the town of Springfield, near where Hyer's hotel stands, which was the only house between Fourth lake and Prairie du Sac, and took part in the organization of the voting precinct, consisting of all the territory between Fourth lake and the Wisconsin river. At the

first election seven votes were polled, and Mr. Simons elected justice of the peace; he also received the appointment of post master, and the office was named Dane, after Dane county, through the influence of Mr. John Catlin of Madison.

In 1845, he moved and settled on section 32, in the town of Dane. Mr. Simons was not only the first settler in the town, but one of the pioneers of western Dane county.

In November, Mrs. Simons gave birth to a son, the first white child born in the town. He is now living in Minnesota, bearing the name of his grandfather, Sardis Dudley.

Mr. Simons took part in the organization of the town of Dane, and was elected to the office of assessor. He is a man of great energy and force of character, never neutral on any question, and always taking an active part in town affairs. He is now living in the village of Lodi, enjoying a green old age.

In the autumn of 1845, Patrick Malone settled in the town and engaged in farming and lumbering. He died of cholera in September, 1850.

Early in the spring of 1846, Mr. Joshua E. Abbott settled on section 6. He was one of the pioneers of Wisconsin, a native of Canada, and came to Wisconsin in 1836. He was married at Mineral Point in 1840, to Miss Elizabeth Skinner.

The tide of immigration having fairly set in, G. O. Babcock and J. R. Waterbury, from St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., and what was known as the Ohio settlement,

from Ohio, came in during the summer. This was a valuable acquisition to the town, and it is seldom that a settlement is made up of men and women as well qualified for pioneer life; all, men of a high moral character, and in possession of a liberal education. They wielded a powerful influence in shaping the moral sentiment of the community. Prominent among them were Dr. Eben Blachly, his brother Bell, A. J. Luce, Wm. Dunlap and Samuel Bell.

In this settlement the first school district was organized, and the first school house in the town was built in 1847; Miss Sarah Blachly teaching the first term. Miss Blachly was married to Rev. Dr. Bradley, of Siam, in the fall of 1848 (the first couple married in the town), and immediately left for their distant field of labor, and are still engaged in missionary work. A Congregational church was organized in 1848, with Rev. Mr. Blachly as pastor.

The sketch of this settlement would be incomplete if particular mention was not made of Mr. Luce. He was a man of strong convictions, a fine public speaker and an admirable debater. He was an active politician, thoroughly devoted to the cause of freedom. Many of the politicians of Dane county will remember him from the heavy blows they received at his hands in the discussion of some of the issues of the day. He died in the spring of 1863.

Among the early settlers were Mr. Otto and Peter Rapp and family. In the summer of 1848 a large number of settlers came in, among whom were the

Steeles, Riddles and Strangeway. A large majority of the early settlers were from New York and Ohio, and of the best class of society.

The following, taken from the records of the town, will show the steady increase of the voting population, and the men elected to the respective town offices:

The first town meeting was held at the house of William Dunlap on the 4th day of April, 1848. George O. Babcock was elected *moderator*, and Bell Blachly and Josiah Fitch, *inspectors*. D. C. Miller was elected *chairman*, Alfred Newman and J. R. Waterbury, *supervisors*. Alfred Newman, *town clerk*. Nathaniel Martin, John Miller and W. G. Winters, *school commissioners*. Sperry Tinker, *treasurer and collector*. John Miller, Freedom Simons and Nathan Martin, *justices of the peace*. At this time there were twenty-seven votes in the town; in 1860, two hundred; while in 1876 there were two hundred and eighty.

It will not be out of place to notice some of the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. A large majority of the early settlers were men of limited means; all were engaged in opening new farms; houses of the rudest bearing were built to shelter them from the pelting storms and the biting frosts.; fire places in one end of the cabin and the old tin oven answered for all the purposes of stoves. Economy of the strictest sort was practiced to procure the necessaries of life. The wool was shorn from the sheep,

carded, spun and woven by our good wives and mothers to make clothing for the family. Threshing was done by means of oxen treading out the wheat upon the ground. The wheat was taken to mill with ox-teams, taking three or four days to get a grist to mill and home again, Badger Mills being the nearest. Wheat could seldom be sold for money or traded for groceries without hauling it to Milwaukee by team, and not unfrequently the expenses ate up the load. What would the farmers of Dane think if they had to haul their wheat one hundred miles by wagon and sell it for forty cents per bushel? And yet the universal cry of 1877 is "*hard times.*" The common method of traveling was on foot or with ox-teams. Traveling with a horse-team and lumber wagon was a luxury seldom enjoyed. What a change has taken place in less than one-third of a century. The old pioneer, when he looks around, pauses in breathless silence and wonders if this can be a reality. Then he could stand on our prairies and see no trace of civilization. The Indian and the wild beast roamed at will over this beautiful country.

From the time the first blow was struck, the work of civilization has gone steadily and rapidly on, and now the waving fields of wheat and corn greet the eye in every direction. The log cabin has given place to the stately farm mansion, the hovel to the large and commodious barns, and the old rude implements of husbandry to the latest and most improved farm machinery, so that as much can now be accomplished

in one day, with the same motive power, as could in three days, twenty-five years ago.

The farmers are now no longer obliged to spend a large portion of their time in marketing the products of their farms, being well accommodated with railroad facilities. The Northwestern railroad runs nearly through the town, crossing the town line on the east side, about half a mile from the southeast corner, running in a northwesterly direction, crossing the north line at the corner of sections two and three. The action of the town in aiding the Northwestern Railroad Company in building the road shows that the people of the town are awake to everything that pertains to their interest. The town was asked to subscribe ten thousand dollars stock to the Baraboo Air Line Railroad, which was virtually a bonus of that amount to the Northwestern Railroad Company. The amount was promptly voted, and the bonds of the town given for the stock. About the time the bonds of the town were given, the raiload company made the town the following proposition: That they would buy the stock at thirty per cent. if the town would pay the balance due on the bonds in cash. Under the able and judicious management of the town board of supervisors, Mr. H. H. Brearton being chairman, the seven thousand dollars was paid in two installments, with seven per cent. interest. Thus the entire indebtedness of the town was wiped out, and its financial condition is good. Town expenses are generally light, but little being required except for the salaries of town officers and school expenses.

Dane Station is situated on the Northwestern Railroad, and is a flourishing little village. The principal business men of the place are: M. Arries, dealer in farm produce; O'Dwyer & Arries, druggists and dry goods merchants; M. Roland, dry goods merchant, who is also building a new warehouse for the purchase of produce; Knuteson & Bro., blacksmiths and wagon makers; Theodore Stuchen, wagon maker; F. Anhalt, harness maker; A. Ballwey, shoemaker; M. O'Dwyer, postmaster; N. Opdahl, meat market; N. Little, blacksmith; John Hochstine, Joseph Clames, Nich. Little, saloon keepers.

About one-half of the population are of German nationality, Americans, Norwegians, Scotch and Irish making up the balance.

The climate is very healthy. No maliarial diseases were ever known to originate in this town.

For healthfulness of climate, fertility of soil, railroad facilities, etc., Dane compares favorably with the best towns in Dane county.

A large German Catholic church was built in 1875.

There are four school districts and eight joint in town.

The present town officers are as follows:

*Supervisors* — Thomas Leitch, chairman, William Rapp and Seth Benjamin. *Town Clerk* — William T. Leitch, Jr. *Treasurer* — Peter B. Doane. *Assessor* — Frank X. Endres. *Justices of the Peace* — William T. Leitch, Jr., G. W. Bell, and Richard Ferrill.

## MONTROSE.

BY H. E. STORY.

This township lies on the southern line of the county, which separates it from the town of Exeter, Green county, and consists of township 5 north, of range 8 east. It is fifteen miles southwest of Madison.

The soil of the town is quite varied. The north half is a heavy, clayey soil, mostly oak opening; the southeast part is rather light, warm and sandy; the southern part is mostly timber and prairie, and is excellent soil. The whole town is well watered, Sugar river running through it, entering on section three and passing into Green county on section thirty-five, and also by the west branch of Sugar river, which enters the town on the western boundary at section eighteen and empties into Sugar river at section twenty-eight. A number of large springs are also well distributed over the whole town. The surface is rolling, timber well distributed. The whole is well adapted to stock raising and the dairy business. There are good marsh lands on the streams.

The early settlers were Daniel M. Holt, John Webb, J. M. and P. W. Matts and Geo. McFadden.

The town was organized February 11, 1847.

In 1838, when Mr. Robert Ream (the father of Wisconsin's sculptress, Minnie Ream, proprietor for

a number of years of the Madison House, or first house built in Madison, at one time owned by Eben Peck), in company with W. C. Wells, traveled from Monroe, then known as New Mexico, and passing through this town towards Madison, which was the only market for produce from Green county in those days, camped the first night at Grand Springs, or on the land that was afterward entered by Mr. McFadden, but which was not at that time known as the Springs. After cooking their supper, and having a little fear of the wolves troubling them, they kept a good log fire burning, but did not remain long in the pleasant enjoyment of their frugal meal before they were completely surrounded with droves of of snarling, barking, prairie wolves, but keeping a rousing fire all night and singing negro melodies and camp meeting songs to help the general concert of the roaring, crackling fire and the infernal howling of the wolves, they very early next morning took leave of their new friends. Finding the old road very crooked and uncertain, they were the first that blazed the road between here and Madison by way of Stoner's Prairie, and which for a number of years was used as the public highway. Mr. Ream says that when he returned from Madison he made the journey to Monroe on foot in one day, a distance of forty miles by the road, and was obliged to wade the Sugar river and a number of its tributaries, together with several large marshes, which resulted in bringing on a severe attack of rheumatism.

Mr. Ream was brother-in-law of Mrs. McFadden, of Grand Springs, and in speaking of the trouble of wolves he relates that on one occasion when returning with a load of provisions from Green county, his sister put him up a good tin can of butter to carry home to Madison. The possessor of a good bucket of dairy butter was in those days a matter of envy by all who knew of it, and while passing over the rough roads and anticipating the pleasure he would have on reaching home and showing his prize, he unconsciously tipped out the basket and traveled four or five miles before he missed his treasure. Taking one of his horses out of the wagon, which he mounted, he started back, but only reached the place where his loss occurred in time to scare off a pack of wolves that had not only devoured the butter, but had gnawed the bucket in pieces.

Mr. W. W. Willoughby, one of the old pioneer settlers, speaking of the condition of things when he came, says:

Myself and family arrived in the town of Montrose at noon on the 16th day of May, 1846. Starting from Chautauque county, New York, we were twenty-two days on the road. We put up at the house of Mr. Geo. McFadden, where we relished, with a keen appetite, the pork and beans set out before us for dinner. We encountered a great number of hardships in consequence of the rainy weather, the muddy roads being such as to very much impede our progress. Vegetation was pretty far advanced, and the whole country looked beautiful, but we had become so mystified in our continued traveling, that the sun would persist in setting in the north and rising in the south. Go where we liked, it would remain so until time wore it out.

Religious services were always held in summer in Mr. McFad-

den's barn, and in winter, in the house. The day after our arrival being the Sabbath, the Rev. Mr. Bunting preached from the text: "Are not the waters of Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them and be clean?" In two or three weeks after my arrival, I raised a balloon-frame house, the first in the town. There being but one sawmill in the county near at hand, I had to take my turn in getting lumber from the mill, which was about once in two weeks, and then I would get a small load of clapboards to nail on. In the meantime we had no roof over our heads, only a carpet, which did very well except when it rained, and it seemed as though that was every night. The only way we kept dry was for my wife and child to sleep under the umbrella, while I hung my camlet cloak slanting on some chains. With all these inconveniences I enjoyed myself hugely, but my wife would get homesick once in a while, and would often make tea five times a day to get rid of it. Tea is a good medicine for homesick people, and I can recommend it from experience. About three months after we came, we were able to keep dry in our own house, and, though small in size, we often had as many as eighteen living with us. Sometimes as many as three families of our friends would stay with us from five to six weeks, until they got located.

The first school kept in this township was taught in my grain barn, Miss Kate Killroy, teacher. All the children for two miles each way made a school of over twenty scholars. We were good friends and neighbors in those days, when we lived five and six miles apart. It was in these times that we drove ox teams to Milwaukee, got forty cents a bushel for wheat, and took eight days to make the trip.

Deer were very plenty then. I remember inviting my wife to go hunting with me (I never was much of a hunter, but I killed a deer once in a while). Starting with my team, I had not gone over half a mile from home before I came broadside upon a big buck. Leaving the reins to my wife I drew up my gun, but it shook so I missed the deer, and my wife teased me so much about it that I never asked her to go hunting again.

The time of my first visit to Madison was in June of the same year I moved here, and I went with Mr. and Mrs. McFadden. We were entertained at the house of W. W. Wyman, who printed the whig paper, and politics ran very high then. His daughter Emily

invited my wife to go into the printing office, and her introduction of my wife to her father was, "Father, give this lady a paper; she is a whig." She had made the discovery that my wife was a whig, which in after acquaintance was the cause of many a laugh with Miss Emily, who is now no more. I still live on the farm I entered from the government, and but few of my old neighbors are left here with me.

The year 1846 was a very sickly season; almost everybody in our part of the country had the ague, and before I had been here three months I was taken down with a sickness the nature of which I did not know. There was no doctor except Dr. Fox, and he lived fifteen miles away. I found it necessary to consult some one, so Mr. McFadden showed me the Indian trail, and told me to follow it and it would take me to the doctor's house. I obeyed instructions and found him. He was sitting in his chair, propped up with pillows and bed quilts, and his wife trying to make him comfortable. It seemed he had had the misfortune to fall into a half dug well, having been called up the night before, and had broken some of his ribs and sprained an ankle, and was smashed up in general. But all of that did not prevent him from administering to his patients. He told me I had the ague, and gave me some medicine. I continued after that to have it about one year off and on.

I had but little means left after my farm was paid for; in fact, nothing but my hands, and I truly thought it looked like a sorry day for me. But there was a good deal of teaming at that time from Illinois with flour into the pineries, and one man being too heavily loaded, sold me a barrel of flour for twelve shillings. None knew how thankful I was for that good fortune. My wife and Mary Killroy were the only women in this part of the town that escaped the ague. A family from Vermont, named Rogers, who lived about one mile from me, with a family of seven children, were all down with it, and my wife and Mary used to take turns in baking bread for them. I being sick, my wife would have to hunt the cows at night, and as we had heard awful stories about snakes in Wisconsin (she was terribly afraid of them), she would put on my high topped boots, and when she came to high grass (it was pretty high in those days), she says she ran through it for dear life.

Prairie chickens were more plenty in my dooryard than tame ones. The first one I ever saw was on the other side of Beloit. I

heard a strange noise in the marsh, so I took my gun, thinking of wolves all the time, and started to see. When I came in the vicinity of the groaning, to my astonishment it was nothing but a bird, stamping around with its feathers all in a rumple, and while I was contemplating and wondering what the d—l ailed it, it took wing and left.

The first postoffice established was called Grand Spring, and remained so until Belleville grew up a village, when it was changed to that place and name. I think our town was first named Grand Spring by Mr. McFadden, after his spring, but there were so many townships that had a spring in their name that the legislature did not grant their request. I think it was named Montrose by P. W. Matts, Esq.

For thirty-one years I have enjoyed Wisconsin life. Whether I live thirty-one years longer or not, I know they will not be any happier.

W. W. WILLOUGHBY.

## BELLEVILLE.

The village of Belleville is situated on the west bank of Sugar River, on the south line of the county, twenty miles southwest of Madison. It is surrounded by an excellent farming country, well adapted to stock raising and dairy purposes, which is now becoming the most profitable business in the county. A large portion of the farms are stocked with sheep.

The splendid stock farm of William Lysaght's of twelve hundred acres is near the village; he is the largest and most successful stock raiser in the state, and bases his plans on practical and scientific principles. His influence among the farmers, by his knowledge of stock raising, has been a great benefit to the town. He is a gentleman of superior educational attainments, high minded, reliable and honorable, having resided here since the first settlement of the town.

The raising of stock on small farms is now very extensive, and is daily increasing, resulting from the continued failure of the wheat crop for the last fifteen years. Farmers having thus been forced into the stock business have given their land rest, and enriched it, where otherwise it was becoming impoverished by the raising of wheat.

John Frederick located here in 1847, and built a grist mill the next year; he was the first settler on land now occupied by the village, and built the first dwelling house. In 1848, the village was laid out by John Frederick and John Mitchell, owning one-half, or twenty acres each. The village was named after Frederick's native place, Belleville, Canada West. The first marriage solemnized in the village, was by the Rev. Matthew Fox., and in Mr. Frederick's house.

The first store was built in 1847, by John Sylvester, and occupied by him till 1857, when he removed to Kentucky, his native place.

The first district school was organized in 1846, now district No. 3. A meeting was called for all the legal voters in the town, and the attendance was quite large for that time. The especial object, aside from the organization, was the location of the school. After quite a discussion upon the subject, it was found on examination that there were but two legal voters, Geo. McFadden and Wm. Morehead, and they located the school. However, the remainder retired quietly, and were afterwards well satisfied with the location, it being near the center of the town. There are now sev-

en school districts in the town which compare favorably with any in the county.

The first school house was built in 1847, an octagon building, one story, and intended at that time to accommodate about forty scholars. The present school house was built in 1869, 28 by 36 feet, two stories high, and will bear comparison with any village school house in the county.

The first religious society formed, or organized in the township, was Presbyterian, in 1847, Rev. Matthew Fox, pastor. The meetings were held from that time until the village was laid out, and the school house built, in Geo. MacFadden's barn, at the Grand Spring Farm. Mr. Fox continued to preach once in two weeks, for some time, with great satisfaction, till about 1861. He was honored and respected by all who knew him, for his energy, manliness, and the honesty with which he gave expression to his opinions and sentiments. The church is still in a prosperous condition, and is composed of some of the wealthiest citizens.

Rev. Matthew Fox speaking of his early ministerial work among the pioneer settlers, says:

Geo. McFadden was one of the early settlers in the section of country now known as the town of Montrose; he established himself near the Sugar river some 18 miles S. and E. from Madison. There was a large spring, and on that he built his log house. At that time there was considerable teaming to the pinery of Wisconsin from Northern Illinois. Mr. McFadden's residence was in the line of travel, and teamsters used to put up there attracted by the spring, his comfortable barn and ample board. The place

was known as Grand Spring. Shortly after my arrival in Wisconsin, in 1845, I was invited to preach here, and after some time established regular services. For a while I preached in Mr. McFadden's barn, afterwards in his house and at a later day in a school house. I organized the Presbyterian church (now known as the Presbyterian Church of Belleville) in that barn, and there administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The place where Belleville now stands was then a wilderness.

There was an Indian trail from Second Lake to Sugar river, and that trail was my guide in those early days. I also preached at the Badger mills before the town of Verona was established, and at the residence of Mr. George Robinson held regular services. There I organized the Presbyterian church, now known as the Presbyterian Church of Verona.

I commenced my ministerial work in the place now known as Oregon in August, 1845. The bar-room of the Rome house was my church. After a year's labor I organized a Presbyterian church. Caleb Spooner and Charles P. Moseley were the Elders. The amount of salary raised for me during the second year of my ministry at Oregon was twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents. But few of the first members of the church are now living. In a pastorate of so many years, I have witnessed great changes; have had experience of great hardships; have received many signal blessings and have had many precious evidences of affectionate regard; here I have spent the vigor of my life, and here, as the shadows of life's evening are gathering, I am waiting for the voice of my Redeemer to call me Home.

In 1856, our house of worship was built; our membership as per session record is some 90.

In 1853, a Free Will Baptist society and church was organized here, Rev. Benjamin Davis, pastor. It continued but a few years and then died out.

About 1847, the Methodists began to hold meetings here, and have continued to do so with varying success, up to the present.

In 1856, a Baptist society and church was organized, Rev. Mr. Whitman, pastor, and prospered well

under his ministration. In 1858, the society, with the assistance of each of the other religious bodies, built the first church, which was also used by the other denominations until 1875. The house at this time being badly out of repair, in consequence of a number of those who had taken an active interest in the church having died, or removed from here, so that there were not enough left to interest themselves in the necessary repairs, when it was leased to the Second Advent Church and society for ninety-nine years. This society was formed about 1858, the Rev. Mr. Hitchcock, pastor, and has continued prosperous up to the present time. Since the leasing of the church to them they have repaired it in a very tasteful manner, and it is now quite an ornament to the village. The Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist still possess the right to use it.

The first physician that settled here was Dr. E. H. Osborne, who came in 1847, and has earned a reputation as one of the most successful in Dane county; his practice extending over several townships. He retired from practice in 1874 (on account of failing health), with an ample fortune — a large hearted man, ever ready to help all enterprises that would be for the benefit of his fellow man, and respected by all who knew him.

The cemetery was laid out in 1855, on land bought of Wellington Willoughby. Until a few years back but little interest was taken in keeping the ground in proper repair, but now there is quite a taste awakened to suitably ornament the grounds.

The first blacksmith shop was built in 1848, by Mr. Fuller. He continued in business until 1851, when he returned to Ohio.

The first hotel was built by John Wood in 1851, and to-day will compare favorably with any village hotel. It is in excellent condition, and kept in grand style by the present owner, S. A. Barker, who has the tact and the means to keep a good hotel.

The first mill built here was by John Frederick in 1844, a large stone building, but was taken down in 1870. The present mill was built in 1867, by Wm. B. Norris, who sold to J. W. Norton in 1870, who now owns and operates it.

This is one of the best water powers on Sugar river. There is scarcely one-half the power utillized. It is also one of the safest and least expensive, not being liable to damage by floods, which speaks well for it as one of the best locations for manufacturing purposes in Dane county. The business of the village at present is two good general stores, H. E. Story and William B. Norris, both doing a good business; J. D. Oliver, harness shop, doing a prosperous business; D. S. Smith, wagon shop, doing a good paying business; T. B. Withers, blacksmith; Geo. Dyson, shoe shop; C. C. Pease, cheese factory; Miss A. H. Gassett, millinery goods, and doing an excellent business; Miss Kate Sullivan, dressmaker; J. M. Williams, cabinet maker.

The growth of Belleville has been shown from the start, but being located between two railroads forty

miles apart, about equal distance between them, it very naturally has a tendency to carry immigration by to newer places, with better prospects for railroad comforts and conveniences. A route for a railroad was surveyed from Brodhead to the Wisconsin river in 1856, and another about the same time from Brodhead to Madison. But owing to bad management and local jealousy, it was never completed. The present spring another has been surveyed from Brooklyn to Belleville, a branch of the Northwestern, and it is hoped may be built. Should we get a road to this place, we would in a very few years have the largest town in Dane county, judging from the beautiful location, ease of access, water power, and well cultivated lands.

There are several mounds on the banks of the river, some of them have been opened, but nothing new discovered to give any light on their origin.

### PAOLI—BY H. S. UTLEY.

Paoli village is situated on the east branch of Sugar river, in the town of Montrose, five miles north of the county line between Green and Dane counties, the river here having an average width of about twenty-five feet and the valley of about two miles.

Fine farming lands surround the village on every side, and within a few years good and substantial farm houses and barns have been erected.

The village was laid out and named by Hon. P. W. Matts, in 1849, and a saw-mill put up by him the

next year. The water power is gained by a race one-fourth of a mile long, cutting across a bow in the river. The fall is about eight feet.

The first store was opened by John Mitchell in 1851.

In 1864 the mill property was bought by the brothers, B. M. and F. H. Minch, who put up a substantial stone grist-mill, using the saw-mill as a storage room. They now do business under the firm name of B. M. Minch & Co.

Others, doing business at present, are the following: Willliam Fischer, Postmaster, dealer in dry goods and groceries, and proprietor of the Paoli Cheese Factory. William Minch & Co., dry goods, groceries and notions. Henry Goodnow, general blacksmith, light and heavy forging. Solon J. Smith, harnessmaker. C. J. Keve, blacksmith. John Meyer, wagonmaker. Milo Sanders, carpenter and joiner. Miss Mary J. Ulerich, dressmaker. Miss Lucy Sanders, milliner. Mr. Hangartner, shoemaker. Dr. George Pickett, physician and surgeon. Frank Meng, proprietor and keeper of the hotel.

Paoli cemetery, one-half a mile south of the village, is regularly laid out with a central park and pleasantly situated.

The St. Raphael (Catholic) church and parsonage are located in a thriving German settlement two and one-half miles west of the village.

The Methodist church was organized about the year 1850 in the log school house, and one of the principal

preachers of that day was known as Father Fox, a very earnest advocate of the gospel, and father of Dr. and Rev. Matthew Fox, of Oregon. They now have a neat and commodious church building in the village. The present pastor is Rev. Mr. Burnip.

The Paoli school house is pleasantly situated on the east bank of Sugar river, and consists of two commodious rooms well furnished, the school being graded into two departments during the winter term. The assessed valuation of the district is $131,500, and it has 108 children.

Paoli Lodge, No. 177, I. O. G. T., meets every Tuesday evening, in M. E. Church.

Paoli Grange, No. 476, meets Saturday evenings, every two weeks, in Solon J. Smith's hall.

During the winter, the large hall in William Fischer's Cheese Factory makes a very pleasant place for social gatherings.

## DUNN.

BY WILLIAM E. COLLADAY, Esq.

Dunn, or township 6 north, range 10 east of the 4th principal meridian, lies south of Blooming Grove, and Lake Waubesa, or Second Lake, and north of Rutland, between Pleasant Springs and Lake Kegonsa, or First Lake on the east, and the towns of Oregon and Fitchburg on the west.

The original name of this town was Rome, comprising what is now Oregon, Fitchburg and Dunn. When set apart from the other towns, Dover was the name that was intended to have been given it; but in 1848, by mistake of the engrossing clerk of the Assembly, it received its present name.

The surface of this town is somewhat undulated, yet not marked by any steep ascents or sterile bluffs; but consists of prairie, oak openings and meadow land. The soil on the prairie and a portion of the lower lands is rich black loam, with limy clay and sandy subsoil in the openings. Madison, the University and Insane Asylum can be seen from several points in town.

The largest stream is the Yahara, or Catfish river, which is the outlet of Lake Waubesa, or Second Lake, and runs in a southeasterly direction through sections 4, 10, 11, and 14, into First Lake, and then winds its way into Rock river.

On section 10, the river widens and covers an area of nearly half a section, or about a mile long and

half a mile wide, and is called the "Wide Spread," or "Mud Lake." This stream is well wooded on either bank with heavy timbers, and a greater portion of the way, the banks being high and dry, afford splendid facilities for milling purposes.

The second largest stream is Door Creek, which rises on section 7, in the town of Cottage Grove, winds its way from the north, through sections 1, 12, and 13 of this town, and empties into First Lake. Hook Lake covers an area of several hundred acres on sections 28, 29, and 32, and is stagnant water, fed by small springs and surface water; has no outlet but almost evaporates as fast as fed by springs. High water occurs only in times of rainy seasons. During dry seasons, cranberries are gathered on the marshes.

These lakes, with the exception of Hook Lake, teem with fishes of most every species adapted to fresh water, and during the early settlement of this town, were so abundant that they could be taken from the smaller streams by pitchforks. On the lakes, swans, pelicans, geese and ducks were numerous, and the woods abounded with bears, wolves, foxes and deer.

On the west bank of First Lake, on sec. 14 and 23, there was at one time a village of Winnebago Indians, and numerous trails and relics are still found, as well as a number of Indian mounds, or cemeteries, where they buried their dead. These mounds are numerous on sec. 23, and also on the point that projects into the lake from the west. Here they have been opened, and remains of Indians found therein, two, three and four having been buried in the same grave. Lead ore is frequently found on sections 14 and 23, in bulks con-

taining from three to fifteen pounds each. Where it came from, or whether mines of this valuable mineral exist undiscovered by civilization, we are unable to say. Abel Rasdall, an Indian fur trader, was told by the Indians that ore did exist in quantities near the lake. A few years since we discovered, on the south bank of the Catfish river, near the lake, a kiln, or place made of stone and clay under ground, where lead ore was smelted by the aborigines, and in the immediate vicinity seemed to be a great resort for tribes of savages, as Indian relics are frequently found, such as arrow heads, stone axes, etc.

One of the detachments of the army in pursuit of Black Hawk, on his retreat to Prairie du Chien, camped for several days on section 27, where they felled trees to form a strong corral for their horses.

The town was first settled by Alvah W. Wetherby and family, on section 21, in 1843. The following year, Dr. Levi Pritchard settled on section 18; A. Witcomb on section 28; Dexter brothers on section 27; Root brothers, one on section 27, and one on section 7; Richard Palmer on section 18; O. B. Moore on section 1; and William M. Colladay on section 27. In three or four years after the first settlement, the inhabitants seemed to be quite numerous, and in 1848 there were about twenty-five families settled in what is now the town of Dunn. Wetherby having accumulated property, emigrated in 1858 to California. Dr. Pritchard practiced as a homœopathic physician with great success, and gained the respect and esteem of the whole country, and against the real wishes of the people he emigrated to Missouri, where he died

about the year 1870. The Root brothers emigrated from here to Oregon. A. Witcomb and the Dexter brothers (Witcomb's nephews) emigrated to Nebraska. O. B. Moore still resides on his old homestead. He has held the office of chairman of the town board of supervisors for several different terms, besides various other town offices; is an energetic Republican, and strong supporter of education.

Wm. M. Colladay immigrated from Philadelphia to this town and first settled on section 27, where he lived for several years. In 1853 he moved on to section 23, bordering on First Lake, where he still resides; this being one of the finest locations in the country. These commodious grounds and pleasant scenery make it a pleasant summer resort. Picnics, fishing parties, etc., are almost an every day occurrence; at this writing, July, 1877, there are encamped on these grounds several parties, in all forty-two, with nine tents. To give an idea of the natural beauty of this place and lake, we here insért a card *verbatim*, from a young man, dated London, England:

MARCH 10, 1877.

HON. W. M. COLLADAY AND FAMILY. — While here my thoughts often revert to my many friends in Wisconsin, and especially to yourself and family, and the pleasant occasions spent with you. In all my travels in America and this country, I've not seen a place that, for natural beauty, equaled yours. If I ever reach home again in Wisconsin, be assured you will find me again at Colladay's Point. My regards to all the family. Yours respectfully, W. J. P.

The first town meeting was held at the residence of A. W. Wetherby, April 4, 1848; the spring election of the territory at which the state constitution was adopted. Only twenty-three votes were cast, and the following were the first elective officers: R. T. Raw-

son, chairman, Wm. Freeman and Eli Root, *supervisors;* Wm. M. Colladay, *clerk;* Norman Farwell, Henry Farnsworth and Joseph C. Swain, *school commissioners;* Wm. M. Colladay and R. G. Spaulding, *justices of the peace;* A. W. Wetherby, *treasurer;* Calvin Farnsworth, *assessor.* At the last presidential election there were 229 votes cast, and at the last local election 216.

During the early history of the town, there were no party lines drawn at local elections, but as the Democratic party grew strong, they took matters in their own hands. Within the last few years the young men have taken an active part in political affairs, and the Republican party have gained control.

The first public school was taught at the residence of Asa Dexter, by Miss Amanda Soul, now the esteemed wife of Asher G. Greene of this town. The district then comprised nearly the whole township. The first school district organized was what is now District No. 4. There are in town six school houses, including two joint districts. The amount expended annually for educational purposes is about $1,500.

The first sermon preached was at the residence of Wm. Slater, about 1847, by the Rev. Wm. Fox, an old pioneer Methodist from Ireland.

There is one church, erected in 1873, at McFarland, by the Norwegian Lutherans. The Methodist Episcopal society hold services every other Sunday, alternately, at Hoffman's Hall and the school house in district No. 4. The present pastor is Rev. W. J. Wilson.

In 1855, the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad Company erected a depot on the northeast quar-

ter of the southeast quarter of section two. The village of McFarland was laid out on section three, by Wm. H. McFarland in 1857, and the depot removed, and the spacious residence of Mr. McFarland erected. The following season he moved his family from Milwaukee to his new home, where he still resides. He is a hearty supporter of education, and offers to donate a site for the erection of a suitable building for a public graded school, of which we are in much need.

In 1856, Eugene Eighmy bought grain at the old depot, and continued to buy after the erection of the new depot until the spring of 1859, when Freeman Eighmy assumed the business and continues to buy, always paying the highest market price for all produce, and every man is sure to get full weight. All in all, we have the best market in the country, and a buyer in whom all place the utmost confidence; and he in return is worthy of their trust. he is also proprietor of a lumber yard, where he keeps a large stock of first class lumber. In 1868, Mr. Eighmy erected a commodious and substantial warehouse, in which the capacity for storage is ten thousand bushels. Lawrence Eighmy and Philetus Hurd, stock buyers, courteous gentlemen, are always ready to pay the highest market price for live stock. Eugene Eighmy, a social business man, has a large trade in the mercantile business. O. O. Forton also has a good trade and large stock of general merchandise. H. H. Hoffman has a large convenient store with a small stock of clothing and crockery, and a fair trade. Lloyd Hurd, an energetic young man, has a good business in the harness trade. Lamp, our village

smithy, has all the work he can attend to. Shelter & Reid also have a blacksmith shop. Nelson & Hanson are proprietors of a boot and shoe firm. Ed. Johnson, dealer in confectionery, boots and shoes.

Among our most prominent farmers and stock raisers are Geo. Keenan (the owner of the largest real estate and most spacious farm residence in the county), Wm. E. Sherlock, Michael Lally, Wm. M. Colladay, Robt. Henry, Knute Daley, Timothy Cusic, James Tusler, Egbert Bennett, Tollif Olson, Morris Brown, Geo. Leitch and Calvin Farnsworth. In common with other parts of this county, until within a few years, the principal crop was wheat; but since, the yield has been so seriously affected by the chinch bug and other unknown causes, the greater portion of the farmers have engaged in raising live stock, and as a consequence, have largely increased the acreage of coarser grain. Through the courtesy of James Tusler, the present assessor, we are able to give the official statistics of the acreage of the different agricultural products of the present year (1877): Wheat, 1,449; corn, 3,140; oats, 2,542; barley, 718; rye, 117; tobacco, 149; potatoes, 107; cultivated grasses, 1,740.

The following are the names of the present town officers: John M. Sampson, chairman, Knute H. Dally, and Josiah Douglass, *supervisors;* Osman T. Olson, *clerk;* James Tusler, *assessor;* Shure Johnson, *treasurer;* Amos Prentiss, *justice of the peace.*

# ROXBURY.

BY HON. JOHN T. CLARK.

Location. — This town is situated in the northwest corner of this county; is bounded on the north by the town of West Point, in Columbia county, on the east by the town of Dane, on the south by the town of Berry, and on the west by the town of Mazomanie and the town of Prairie du Sac, in Sauk county. It is not quite a full township, the Wisconsin river cutting off the northwest corner of section six.

The territory which now forms this town was taken from the town of Dane, and the name Roxbury was given to it on a vote of the residents, at the suggestion of James Steele, Esq., who still resides there. At the time of its formation, which was in the year 1849, all the land lying west of the present town and east of the Wisconsin river was attached to Roxbury; but in 1863, the strip of land last described was, by an act of the legislature, attached to the town of Mazomanie.

The first officers of the town were: Burke Fairchild, *chairman;* Lorenzo Farr and Lorenzo D. Miller, *supervisors;* James Crowder, *town clerk;* Lorenzo Farr, *assessor;* James Steele, *treasurer;* Z. Bowers, J. Crowder, George Richards and B. Fairchilds, *justices of the peace.* Not a German in the list, while now none of the town officer is of any other nationality, unless he be American born of German parents.

Surface and Soil. — The surface is much diversi-

fied. The hills frequently rise to a great height, and are mostly filled with fine building stone, some of which is made into lime of the best quality. Between these hills or "bluffs," as they are called, when of considerable height, the lands are very fertile. Some of the best wheat lands are on the top of high hills. The land is what is called openings, with here and there a few acres which might be termed "prairie."

On sections one and two is a beautiful sheet of water, from its transparency called "Crystal Lake." The water of this lake is shallow, extending into West Point, and covers about a section of land.

On sections three and four is another smaller lake, covering about a half section of land. This is called "Fish Lake," or "Clark's Lake," from the name of the owner of the land on which it is situated. It is not known how deep this lake is. It has been sounded to the depth of eighty feet and no bottom found. These lakes are well stocked with fish. There is also another small lake on sections fourteen and fifteen, called "Crane Lake," and in many parts of the town there are ponds which, with springs here and there, and the Wisconsin river, supply the stock with water.

The people, who are almost exclusively Germans, are engaged in general farming and grape raising. There is no manufacturing carried on, unless under that term wine making can be included. It is believed that there are more grapes raised in this town than in the rest of the county, and perhaps than in the whole state besides. Jacob Kehl, who resides near Prairie du Sac, has the largest vineyard. All over the town may be found sunny slopes where, in the proper season, hang thousands of rich clusters.

There is no large village or market place in town. Clifton, situated on the Wisconsin river opposite Prairie du Sac, and in the very northwest corner of the town, was once a promising village, but it has not kept pace with the growth of the country about it. In the southeast corner of the town is a small village called "Alden's Corners." Superior City, on the Wisconsin river, was one of the earliest laid out towns in the state, and will be hereafter noticed. The only stores in town are those of B. Reuter, near the church and the center of the town, and of P. J. Schleck, near the Sauk City bridge.

The produce raised in this town is marketed at Madison, Middleton, Black Earth, Mazomanie, Sauk City, Prairie du Sac (which is connected with Portage by steam navigation on the Wisconsin river), Lodi, Dane station and Waunakee. All points of the compass compete for what the town can raise.

On the 21st day of July, 1832, the battle called "the battle of Wisconsin Heights," in what is known as the Black Hawk war, was fought here, principally upon sections 19 and 24, and near the present residences of George Richards, Esq., and Richard Taylor. A painting of this battle ground, executed by Brooks, may be seen at the rooms of the State Historical Society at Madison. The thrashing machine represented on this painting was on the farm of Mr. Richards. The Indians and their pursuers appear to have come over the bluff from the southeast. A sort of running fight was kept up while the savages were driven through the valley, across the lowlands and the Wisconsin river, and so on to Bad Axe. Many human bones, as well as arrow heads and other paraphernalia

of Indian warfare have been dug up beneath, or found on the surface of the earth in this vicinity.

Superior City. — One of the earliest, largest, and most successful paper towns ever laid out in the west, was located in this territory, now called Roxbury. It was principally upon section nineteen; beginning near the present residence of P. J. Schleek, Esq., extending southward and down the Wisconsin river, covering the farm owned by T. M. Warren, Esq., and now occupied by John Steinfelder, and embracing the Varnell place, spreading over more than three hundred acres of land.

It appears from all accounts that in the year 1837 or 1838, a company was formed in the eastern states, of which company one Floyd seems to have been the principal manager, to lay out a town on the Wisconsin river, either with the honest expectation that such town would be built, and legitimate gain be made thereby to the proprietors, or with the hope that a speculation might be made out of such parties residing at the east as had more money and credulity than sound judgment.

This, be it remembered, was at a time when such device was new, and no bubble of the kind had ever burst in the land.

The town was christened "Superior City," and a most elegant map was made of it, showing the streets, the public buildings and parks, the Wisconsin river on which steamboats were plying up and down, and also navigating the smaller stream, a tributary coming down from Crane Lake by Father Inama's house, on which stream splendid mills were represented (which stream, by the way, is dry ten months in the

year), and in general setting out every convenience, elegance and attraction which could be placed on paper by the most ingenious Yankee.

All in fact, which had ever been done towards building a town, was to stake out the streets, lots, blocks, and squares, and to fell some trees and hew them, apparently with the intention of using the timber in building. This was all that was ever done in this direction, unless perhaps a shanty was built for the laborers who cut and hewed the timber.

The map was taken to Chicago, New York, and Boston, accompanied with the most glowing descriptions of the beauty, salubrity and commercial advantages of the city, and large numbers of the lots were sold, some at as high figures as $800 each. They were sold, too, to persons who had been considered as of sound mind. Daniel Webster, "the Godlike Daniel," is said to have had about $13,000 in the great city.

After making the maps and selling the lots, neither the proprietors, their agents, "nor any other man," came to build the city; the timber was sold by the laborers to whom the company was indebted for work, or appropriated by such persons as thought they needed it. The stakes have long since fallen, and the place which knew Superior City "shall know it no more forever."

Early Settlement. — In 1840, Augustine Haraszthy, commonly known as Count Haraszthy, with his cousin Charles Hallasz, the latter of whom has ever since resided and now resides at what is now called Sauk City, Hungarians by birth, immigrated to and located at the place last named. Haraszthy appears to have been a man of great energy and of considera-

ble means, and very enthusiastic about the future of this country. He invested at once in lands in the neighborhood, and set about improvement. So far as can now be ascertained, in the fall of 1840, he erected the first building in this town, not for a residence, but as a sort of hunting lodge. This was a log building, and was set upon a point of the bluff above and near the Wisconsin river, and nearly opposite the lumber office of Mr. Hallasz, as it now stands in Sauk City.

During the year 1841, Haraszthy established a ferry across the Wisconsin river near or a little below where the Sauk City bridge now stands, and the house now owned and occupied by P. J. Schleck, Esq., as a store, saloon, and post office, was built by Mr. Haraszthy in that year, and used as a ferry house. Robert Richards and Jacob Fraelich operated the ferry, and resided in this house. This is supposed to have been the first dwelling erected in town, and they the first residents. At this point two or three Indian trails met, and for several years this was the usual crossing place. From this date there was little improvement in the town for four years.

The year 1845 determined in a great degree the nationality and religion of the population of the town. In that year came Father Adelbert Inama, a German catholic priest. He had been two years from his native land, and those two years had been passed in New York. He had come to seek a home in the wilderness, and to plant and uphold here the standard of the cross. He selected for his residence a most romantic spot; a little ravine surrounded by hills except where at certain seasons of the year, a stream, sometimes swelling into a torrent, passes through. Here he still

lives, with no house in sight except his own, and with no clearing except a good sized garden. His cows pasture through the woods, and he keeps no horse, preferring to walk wherever his duty has called him. Here in 1845, he built his log cabin, which looks out toward the midday sun. Directly in the rear rises a steep bluff covered with timber. You approach the dwelling across a foot bridge over the ravine down which heavy rains and melting snows hurl their floods to the river. After a time he adds at the west end of his cabin a kitchen, using his room first built for all the purposes of his priestly office. His work grew upon his hands, and he joined to the east end of his original building an audience room and an altar, the two forming his chapel, which, surmounted by a cross, is still standing, and in which chapel, till 1853, mass was said every day.

When Father Inama came, there was but one catholic in what is now Roxbury; that was one Matthias Schmidt, and he soon left. The lone priest made great efforts to induce immigration. He entered a considerable amount of land near the center of the town, and allowed those coming in to take it at government price. As a matter of course the new comers were catholic Germans, and the diligent pastor soon found a flock gathering about him. His little chapel in the ravine was visited by those of his faith from all the country round. All nationalities, and even some Indians who had been converted through the labors of the early missionaries, were glad to find this lonely spot where they could receive the rites and enjoy the privileges of their mother church.

So one family after another came, either directly

from Fatherland or from the states, until in the year 1853, the society was able to complete, near the center of the town, the little red brick church, 24 by 30 feet in size, which now stands in the rear of the stone building, and is occupied by the altar. The growth of the society continued until in 1860 it embraced from sixty to seventy families, and the little brick church having become quite too small, they enclosed the present stone front, 44 by 50 feet in size. This, with the old church, was used but not finished within, till 1866. This society has continued to increase until now it embraces over one hundred families. They have commenced a second addition to the church, the foundations of which are already laid, and when complete they will have a magnificent edifice. The plan provides for the removal of the little old brick church in the rear, extending the stone building until its length shall be 110 feet, and adding wings so that when finished the building will stand on the ground in the form of a cross.

Mention should be made of the fact that this church has above its altar what is considered one of the finest paintings in America. It is large; there are five figures upon it. Above are the Virgin and Child, two beautiful forms; below, on the left, is St. Jerome, and on the right are St. James and St. Norbert, after the latter of whom the church is named, and who is represented with the features of Louis I, king of Bavaria. This choice painting was executed by an artist in Munich, in 1859, and was sent by said king, as a present to this church, in 1860.

This is the only church edifice in town, though there are a few members of other church organizations.

Connected with the church just described, in a commodious stone building, is a school, taught by "sisters," where the children and youth are instructed in the doctrines and faith of their fathers. The town has no other school except the common district schools, for which there are several fine buildings.

Father Inama is now in his 80th year. He has served this church and the country round about since 1845, assisted only for a time by Father Max Gardner, until 1872, when he was relieved by Father Matthias Heigl, a young man of fine talents and education, of prepossessing personal appearance and cultivated manners, who now performs the duties of pastor to this large congregation.

Father Inama born in Tyrol in 1798, having spent five years in Botzen, devoted to the study of the classics, four years in Innspruch, given to literature and philosophy; to theology one year in Vienna, two years in Innspruch and one in Trent, speaking with fluency several languages, at the age of seventy-five years, having ministered in the same town for thirty years, and having been largely instrumental in settling that town, and in promoting its prosperity, respected and honored by men of all classes and religions, and of no religion, retires to spend the remnant of his days in his vine covered cottage, surrounded by flowers; in his little chapel daily offering prayers for his beloved congregation, with eyes scarcely dimmed or strength abated, calmly awaits the summons of his Maker.

The same year in which Father Inama settled in Roxbury, also came George Richards, Adolph Fasbinder, Carl Schugart, Richard Taylor, — Weber,

— Campbell, James Crowder and Burke Fairchilds. In 1846 came Anton Ganser, T. M. Warren, George Baltis, Nicholas Breckendorf, Michel Michel, Michael Loeser, Conrad Jordan, and perhaps others.

From that time the population increased rapidly, until from almost every valley and hilltop rose the smoke of a log cabin. The few Americans who were among the early settlers have mostly disposed of their property to the Germans, until so far as the language spoken and heard in this town is concerned, one might as well be in Deutchland. The population at the census taken in 1875, was 1,151.

The inhabitants are generally industrious, economical and thrifty. There is almost no litigation in the town. There is scarcely any crime to be punished, and the public peace is not often disturbed. On special occasions, King Lager in some cases prevails over sobriety, and black eyes and bloody noses abound; but the next day all are at work, some, perhaps, with aching heads, but such trifles are never brought into court. The next Sunday all are at church and in peace.

The town is rapidly improving; the waste places are being cleared out and brought under cultivation; the log cabins are fast disappearing, and in their places are rising good, substantial buildings, mostly of stone, and on every side are found the evidences of permanent prosperity.

Thanks are due for information touching the early history and settlement of the town to Charles Hallasz, Esq., of Sauk City, James Crowder, now of Lodi, to Father Inama, and to George Richards, Anton Ganser and Horace Miller, Esqrs., of Roxbury.

## OREGON.

BY DR. I. HOWE.

Township No. 5 north, range 9 east of the 4th principal meridian, is situated in the center of the southern tier of townships in the county of Dane. The surface is undulating, and was, in the state of nature, covered with burr and white oak openings, with a few small prairies and marshes. The soil is good for most agricultural products, but is not rated first class in the county. There are four small creeks, outlets to the same number of springs, two of which are on section 12, forming the head waters of the Badfish, and one each on sections 18 and 20.

Bartley Runey built the first cabin in the township, in the fall of 1841, and moved his family, consisting of his wife, three boys and four girls, into it in the spring of 1842, and opened a tavern. It was located on section 24, near the junction of the mail route from Madison to Janesville and the road from Mineral Point to Milwaukee, known as the "old lead route." It was a favorite stopping place for the teamsters hauling that mineral, and many an old pioneer has seen from ten to fourteen yoke of oxen pulling one stalled wagon out of the mud near the pioneer tavern. His nearest neighbor was Wm. Quivey, in town 6, range 9. Mr. Runey was a man of great energy, but lived only two or three years after settling here. His son Garrett now occupies the old homestead, and few landmarks remain to mark the site of the once famous tavern.

The next settler was Robert Thompson, who located, and, with the assistance of Mr. Runey and boys, built a cabin on section 12, near a beautiful spring which bears his name. The log house is there in good preservation, and the spring, as if in mockery of the decrepitude that has overtaken the young and robust pioneer, still bubbles and sparkles in perennial youth. At the close of 1842, Mr. Runey and family and Mr. Thompson were the only residents in the township.

In 1843, the number was increased by the settlement of Stephen Hook, who located on section 27, and Thomas Hook, his brother; also, C. Sargeant, on section 34, where he still resides, Abram Kierstead and family, consisting of his wife, two sons and three daughters who in a few years were married respectively to three prominent young pioneers, viz.: Hon. S. G. Abbott, Hon. I. M. Bennett and Wm. S. Bedford, Esq. C. P. Moseley settled that year on the present site of the village of Oregon, built a cabin — partly frame and partly logs — and opened a tavern. This log tavern was the nucleus of the present thriving village. Horace Watrous settled on section 1, and built a log house. Eli Root made a claim on the same section, but soon left. Thus ended the pioneer settlement for 1843.

This number was enlarged in the year 1844 by the arrival of Reuben Boyce and family, who settled on section 36, where his son Reuben still resides. In a few days after his arrival, several members of his family were prostrated by ship fever, of which two of his children died — the first deaths in the township.

Mr. Boyce was highly respected by the early settlers. His influence was large and always exerted for

their best interests. Wm. S. Bedford located about the same time, on section 35, Stoddard Johnson on section 1, and Wm. Cummings on section 10, who built a cabin. Mrs. Cummings killed a large deer which had been driven into the door yard and caught by the dogs. She achieved a victory, but rumor hath it that in the struggle she lost nearly all the drapery with which woman delights to adorn herself. At any rate, she beat a hasty retreat on the approach of the young and blushing Joseph G. Fox, and would only speak to him through a chink in the door.

W. F. Lee and Schuyler Gilbert came in this year. Mr. Gilbert located on section 10, and still owns under his patent. S. J. Pratt came in September, the same year. Landing in Milwaukee, he started on foot and alone across lots, and crying, "to find a home." Arriving at Runey's in a few days, he located his present homestead, and now four generations frequently gather under his roof-tree.

About the same time, John S. Frary arrived in Milwaukee. Hardly had he stepped on shore when he was accosted by a stranger: "Do you want to go west, young man?" "West!" cried the weary and homesick John; "west! for eighteen long days and nights have I sought the west on the fastest conveyances the country affords, and if you have anything further *west*, commend me to the first boat going *east*." But he changed his mind, came with the stranger, and in a short time was building his cabin on section 24. 1844 closed with less than a dozen structures to shelter a civilized man in the township.

In 1845, the township rapidly settled up. R. Underwood, wife and two sons — John and Henry — lo-

cated on section 3. John still holds his parchment title; Ira Hays and two sons — Enos and Plympton — on section 5; R. P. Main on section 24, and six brothers, by the name of Devine, on section 23. They deserve a far more extended notice than the space allotted the writer will permit. Joseph Algard and family settled on section 17; Harry Brown and John Ellsworth on section 9, and Wm. De Boise on section 8; Amasa Salisbury on section 1; Rufus Rawson on section 12, where he built the first blacksmith shop. Dick Castleman has the credit also of building this first shop.

In 1845, Nathaniel Ames, three sons and one grandson — J. N. Ames — settled in the township. Mr. Ames was born in 1761, joined the revolutionary army, saw Washington when he visited the winter quarters of his army near Morristown, N. J., witnessed the execution of Major Andre, and died in Oregon August 27, 1863, at the great age of one hundred and two years and four months. When asked by one of his neighbors to what he ascribed his long life, he quietly and philosophically replied: "I have always slept well."

Rev. Matthew A. Fox came in August, 1845, and a few days after, held his first service in the log cabin of Mrs. Kellogg, the occasion being the funeral of her husband. His next service was in the bar room of C. P. Moseley's tavern. In 1856, the first church was built, and he was installed as pastor, which position he has acceptably and usefully filled to the present time. The church stands within a few rods of the cabin in which he performed his first sorrowful service. Many of his early pioneer friends have been

carried through its portals to their last resting place, for whom he has performed a like sad service, and it seems as though his labors might end almost on the spot where they commenced.

J. W. Scovill opened the first store in the township, in the fall of 1845, on section 21, or the "Hollow." He chopped the logs, split the puncheons for the floor and rived the shakes himself. After it was raised and completed, he went to Racine for his stock. During his absence, Mrs. Scovill papered it throughout with Albany Evening Journals. How the heart of the venerable "T. W." would swell to know his paper had served so good a purpose! The enterprising young merchant, by thus surrounding his customers with sound Whig doctrine, insensibly led them to vote that ticket, and from its organization the town has been Whig or Republican by large and uninterrupted majorities. What might have been the result had the good lady used the Albany Argus?

Rosel Babbitt and Seba T. Lewis opened farms this year on sections 14 and 15. Mr. Lewis was accidentally killed in his well by the fall of a bucket. Ephraim Newton and perhaps two or three others located in 1845.

Joseph G. Fox returned from Ireland with his young bride in the fall of 1845 and commenced housekeeping in the first frame house in the township. He had it erected during his absence. His brother James settled near him about the same time. At the close of 1845, pioneer life in the township was about closed. Mills were being erected on the Catfish and Sugar rivers, post offices conveniently established, merchants and mechanics commencing business, roads laid out

and bridges built, and the gospel preached by numerous missionaries who heard with delight the crowing of the unwary spring chicken.

The glowing descriptions of the salubrious climate, fertile soil and abundance of game, sent through the mail or carried by those returning for their families or sweethearts, produced its effect in 1846 and 7, and friends, relatives and neighbors hastened to possess the remaining unoccupied lands. All the conveniences of older settlements were here, or in the near future, except a market, and they cared little for that in comparison with the prosperity that surely awaited them. With strong hearts and willing hands they toiled on, and are to-day reaping the rewards of their enterprise and self-denial. During these years, among those who came to stay, are L. M. Storey, T. Storey, Samuel Shepard, Smith Patchin and Daniel McKeeby. They settled near together, and the settlement was called Storeytown. E. W. Dwight, Phineas Baldwin, father and three brothers, came still later. In 1846, I. M. Bennett opened a store in "Rome Corners," and laid the foundations of his large fortune, and a few years later Wm. S. Bedford engaged in the same business.

The first marriage solemnized in the township was in the first log house built therein; the happy parties being David Anthony and Jane Runey. A Rev. Mr. Miner, of Madison, performed the ceremony. On his way to Mr. Runey's, his horse got mired in the Nine Spring creek. Unable to extricate him, he started on foot to fulfill his agreement. At Lake View he sent assistance to his horse, which was found dead. Wearily walking on, he reached Mr. Runey's about 11 o'clock at night, wet, muddy and exhausted. He performed

his work so well, however, that David and Jane to-day enjoy a well earned competence in peace and contentment. The first piece of cloth was woven by Mrs. Sophia Underwood, who now lives with her son Henry, on a loom made by Enos Hays, the first of its kind in the township. The first public religious service was held in Runey's bar room, by a Methodist missionary by the name of Hawks; and the first parties to a law suit were J. S. Frary vs. B. Runey.

In this narative, the writer has found no place to speak of the real pioneers of the present town of Oregon — the noble band of women who came with or followed their husbands and lovers to this wilderness. They suffered the real hardships and privations of pioneer life. They, unmindful of storms without or minor distress within, gathered little delicacies and needful articles, and visited and assisted the sick and suffering, though frequently miles away. Every old settler's memory is filled with recollections of their gentleness, their kindness, their charity. Many of them have found the repose of death, but those who live are thrice blessed by those who received and now live to testify to their noble and unselfish labor.

The political history of the township is short. To gratify the young and enthusiastic pioneers' longing for ballot-boxing, towns 5 and 6 of range 9, and town 6 of range 10, were formed into an election precinct in 1846, and at the suggestion of J. N. Ames, was called Rome, from which fact the present village of Oregon was then called "Rome Corners." In 1847, Rosel Babbitt circulated a petition for separate township organization under the name of Oregon, which was adopted at the town meeting held in April, and Reu-

ben Boyce elected chairman. Then "local self government" became fairly established, and as it consists mainly in electing officers and paying taxes, the ballot-boxing pioneer has no reason to regret his work, if its success is measured by the numbers of the one or the magnitude of the other.

### OREGON — BY T. E. THOMPSON.

This pleasant little village of about 500 inhabitants is situated in the midst of a fertile agricultural region, in the southern part of the county, ten miles from the capital city, and is the second station on the Madison division of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. A drive on the highway through Lake View to the City of the Lakes in summer is most delightful. Green meadows and waving fields of grain are seen on every side, and neat white farm houses dot the landscape in every direction; and here and there are to be seen a few of the ancient landmarks of the mound builders, some still intact, while others have lost their distinctness by being put to useful purposes by the husbandman, to which occasional glimpses of the glistening waters of the lakes Waubesa, Monona and Mendota, and the city in the distance with its Capitol, University, Churches and other public buildings are brought into view, presenting to the traveler a scene of pastoral beauty unsurpassed in the state.

The first settlement of this town begun in about the year 1842, thirty-six years ago. Prominent among the first settlers may be mentioned C. P. Moseley, Robert Thompson, J. S. Frary, S. J. Pratt, Abraham Kiersterd, W. S. Bedford, Roswell Babbitt, Phineas

Baldwin, R. P. Main and E. W. Dwight. The Boyces, Tipples, Johnsons, Hooks and Foxes were all pioneers and early identified with its history, having witnessed its gradual development and improvement up to the present time.

The surface of the country is slightly undulating, with a good soil of sandy loam, specially adapted for agricultural purposes, consisting chiefly of oak openings, diversified by small prairies and marshes.

The little settlement first took the name of Rome Corners, being a central point of the surrounding towns, which were known only by numbers, as town No. 4, 6, etc.

I. M. Bennett, now of the banking firm of Bennett & Pullen, of Evansville, Wisconsin, kept the first country store in a little log building where now stands the Oregon Exchange, and which was the objective point of trade for the scattered settlers. J. B. Runey, one of the oldest pioneers, settled near the center of the township in the spring of 1842, and built the first log house on the old territorial road running from the lead regions near Dodgeville to Milwaukee, and which was a stopping place for teamsters drawing lead to market. The nearest house was five miles distant, in what is now known as the town of Fitchburg, and was also kept as a tavern by a man by the name of Quivey. Mr. Runey was killed a few years later while returning home from Madison, by the overturning of his wagon near the Nine Spring marsh, on what was afterwards called Break Neck Hill. The

Devines, a family of six brothers, emigrated from Pennsylvania about the year 1845, and settled together near the center of the town, and are now thrifty and prosperous farmers. Mr. Joseph Devine at one time traveled with an ox team as far as Delavan to mill, sixty miles distant, and frequently to Janesville, at a later period. There were no other mills in that section, with the exception of the Badger Mills, where a small business was done. The nearest market was at Milwaukee, ninety miles distant, a trip with an ox team consuming ten to twelve days, the teamsters often camping by the roadside. Wheat only brought from 20 to 25 cents per bushel. Dressed pork, $1.25 per hundred pounds, and frequently the proceeds of the sale would not amount to more than the expenses of transportation. A story is told of a man who hired a load of wheat taken to market, agreeing to pay twenty cents per bushel transportation. When the teamster returned he asked his employer if he had a quarter of a dollar, remarking as he received it, "Now that makes you and me square." The load of grain did not pay the expense of transportation. Almost the only way that anything could be realized from a trip, was to bring back emigrants or a little merchandise for the country stores along the route.

Nathaniel Ames, for two years and a half a soldier of the Revolution, and present at Tarrytown at the execution of Major Andre, and whose portrait adorns the State Historical rooms, settled here at an early period, and also many of his descendants. He died

August 27, 1863, at the advanced age of 102 years, and was buried with Masonic honors.

The business transacted in this town is quite large, it being the nucleus of trade for a considerable section of country around, and is an extensive shipping point for live stock to the Chicago market, the shipments exceeding those of any other station between there and Chicago. During the shipping season twenty-seven car loads of stock have been shipped in one day, but the usual number is about fifteen per week. It was at one time a great market for wheat, as many as 100 car loads being shipped monthly. The grain shipments are now confined mostly to oats, of which a great many are received at this station. A fine brickyard, owned by J. B. Munger, is in successful operation, and where are manufactured a superior quality of white brick, said to be equal to the famous Milwaukee brick, large shipments being made annually to all parts of the country. There are two hotels, the Oregon Exchange being the principal one, kept by Richard Chandler, familiarly and widely known by his friends as "Dick," is one of the best country hotels in the state, and travelers find here a comfortable and home-like stopping place, with a genial host ever ready to minister to the wants and comfort of his guests. The religious element is represented by two churches, one of the Presbyterian and the other of the Methodist denomination, presided over by able pastors. There is also a fine school building consisting of four departments, in charge of capa-

ble and efficient teachers, and a Masonic and Good Templars Lodge, both in a flourishing condition.

The pioneer meeting and pic nic here in July, 1875, was a gratifying success in every particular, it being the first assemblage of the kind ever held in this section. Fully four thousand people were in attendance from the surrounding towns and villages. The governor of the state and other distinguished personages arrived on the morning train from Madison, and were welcomed by a large concourse of the tillers of the soil, with music and banners. At about ten o'clock, a large procession was formed with a detachment of horsemen in front, followed by every con ceivable kind and description of vehicle, loaded with sturdy yeomanry, taking up its line of march to a beautiful grove near the village, where appropriate exercises were held, consisting of music, and short speeches commemorative of the early settlement of the country.

A prominent feature of the procession were the ox teams drawing full loads of pioneers, with their wives and blooming daughters. To one was attached a sled, used by one of the oldest settlers when he first came into the country, upon which were seated the wife and two grandchildren. In one of the wagons drawn by oxen, was the governor and other invited guests. The weather was most auspicious, and every one seemed happy and determined to make happy all those around them. At the close of the day, the expression was universal that it was the most social and

enjoyable gathering ever brought together, and an event long to be remembered in the history of Oregon.

Among the business establishments may be enumerated the following: Shepherd & Tracy, dealers in dry goods, groceries and general merchandise; C. W. Netherwood, postmaster, and proprietor of Netherwood's Hall, a commodious hall used for lectures, theatrical entertainments and balls; Isaac Howe, groceries, drugs and medicines; J. T. Hayes, harness maker, has an extensive establishment, and does a large business in his various lines; Mrs. A. P. Johnson, milliner; C. H. Cronk, station agent; J. W. Scoville, dealer in dry goods, groceries, crockery and glassware; M. C. Salmon, furniture; F. W. Coward, boot and shoemaker; T. Boyd Cowdry, merchant tailor and dealer in gentlemen's furnishing goods; J. M. Doolittle, meat market; C. E. Powers, restaurant and confectionery; A. B. Marvin, grain and poultry dealer; G. W. Getz, wagon and carriage maker; Lindsay & Terwilliger, dealers in dry goods, groceries, yankee notions, etc.; F. D. Powers, attorney; E. L. Booth, boot and shoe maker; Miss O. M. Postle, milliner and dress maker; H. B. Richards, grain dealer; Wm. H. Myers, carriage maker; J. H. Coward, boot and shoe maker; A. W. Herbert, spring bed factory; Johnson & Beckley, milliners and dressmakers; Isaac Johnson, confectionery, flour and feed; H. H. Marvin, dealer in hardware, tin ware and agricultural implements; Tipple & Emmons, stock buyers; Lovejoy & Richards, lumber dealers; Algard & Chandler, stock buyers; P.

Hayes, proprietor of the Oregon Hotel, opposite the depot. There are also two physicians, an insurance agent, three blacksmith shops, and a livery establishment.

The hardy pioneers who suffered all the privations and hardships attending the settlement of a new country, and who have witnessed its gradual growth and development, now enjoy the fruits of their labor, as the well cultivated farms and comfortable homes attest their growing prosperity and happiness.

## BLACK EARTH.

BY CLARENCE BURNETT AND A. J. FULLERTON.

Not a very remarkable village; yet, from its picturesque appearance, nestling between huge chains of bluffs, its cosy dwellings, its excellent water power, and its sprightly business aspect, is one to excite in the mind of the visitor a desire to know something of its history. Hence this sketch.

The ground it now occupies was formerly the home of the Winnebago Indians. They were a peaceable tribe, and gave very little annoyance, save by their incessant begging, and their propensity for "borrowing." Many amusing anecdotes are told of them by early settlers, but our limited space forbids their mention. The region abounds in Indian mounds; but perhaps the most remarkable among them is that just south of the village, which represents the prostrate form of a human being, and is several rods in length. It is supposed to mark the last resting place of one of their numerous chiefs.

About 1842 Solomon Hayden made his appearance upon the site which is now known as Black Earth. With him he brought one Charles Turk, and they commenced the toilsome work of rearing a home and clearing ground upon which to raise such articles as are necessary to existence. Mr. H. has the credit of

building the first house within the present township limits. It was a primitive structure, such as all of us are more or less familiar with, and such as to-day would seem impossible to class among what are known as residences. But in those days a house was valued more for the shelter it gave than for its comely appearance. It occupied a spot of ground just south of the present residence of Mr. John Hill.

Just previous to the building of Mr. Hayden's house — about October, 1843 — Mr. Henry Wilson arrived from New York, together with his family. He found himself in a strange country, almost uninhabited, and without any means of sheltering himself from the storms of the coming winter. Something must be done, and Mr. W. at once set about building a temporary abiding place. When completed it was more a wigwam than anything else, being built of such loose material as could be readily found, and covered with the dry grass of the marshes, close at hand. Here he wintered his family, cooking in the open air, and getting along with inconveniences as only pioneers can. This will explain the allusions often made to Mr. Wilson's spending his first Wisconsin winter in a hay stack. In the spring following, on the completion of Mr. Hayden's house spoken of, the family were moved to it, and there remained until Mr. Wilson's return from Milwaukee and other points, where he had gone to purchase such articles as were needed in clearing the land which he had settled upon.

A start once made, the valley was rapidly settled.

A few years later Mr. O. B. Haseltine came here from Vermont, and took up land; and to him attaches great importance in Black Earth's history. Under his direction, in August, 1850, the original village plat was made. It was surveyed by David B. Jarvis, then county surveyor, and was composed of six blocks, comprising the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section twenty-six, township eight north, of range six east. The village took its name from a creek, which passed through it, but was afterwards changed to Ray, and then again to Black Earth, under which, in 1857, it was incorporated, with George High as president. The incorporation act was for some reason done away with, and it has since remained as it now is. The several additions were made in subsequent years, but no particular importance attaches to them.

The next stride city-ward was a grist mill. Seeing the need of such a branch of industry, Mr. John B. Sweat purchased of Mr. Haseltine the site and privileges of the present mill company, and built the mill. This he conducted for some length of time, when he sold it to Mr. John Wall, who after building a small addition, transferred it to its present owners, Messrs. Stanford, Logan & Co. The mill as it now is has a reputation well to be envied, and is doing a very extensive business, not only doing the custom milling for a large scope of country, but shipping large quantities of fine quality of flour to the eastern markets.

Then followed a business venture in the form of a "country store," Elias Pound being the proprietor. His place of business was where now stands the residence of Mr. M. H. Myers. Old settlers tell what are to us marvelous stories of the sale of eggs at three cents per dozen, butter at three cents per pound, and other things proportionately. Success attending Mr. Pound, others were not slow to see it, and soon afterward Messrs. High & Barber established themselves in business.

Our first hotel was the building which, with sundry additions, is now the residence of Mr. J. Q. Stuart. It was kept by Mr. Jared Peck. The next was the hotel which now stands and is known as the Valley House. This we believe was first kept by Mr. Thomas Barber. Perhaps none of our "old timers" have acquired a stronger hold upon the affections of the people than Mr. B. This gentleman came over from England in 1848, arriving just in time to vote on the admission of our state into the union. For eight years he tilled the soil, marketing his products in Milwaukee, and frequently not getting enough for the load to pay the expenses of the trip. In 1854, he moved to the village and engaged in the hotel business, and afterward established the hardware establishment, in which he has since remained.

In the year 1845, the first school house was built. It was a modest looking structure, and in keeping with the other buildings of that day. It was situated between the present farm residences of James

and John Turk. For several years, the building served as a temple of learning and as a house of worship. With the increase of population came a demand for more commodious quarters, which were provided about 1853. This was a frame building, within the village limits, upon the present school lot. This in turn became as inadequate to the demands as had the old one in its day, and in 1859 an excellent two story brick building was made in its place, and the old building sold to the people of Peter C. Paulson's district, town of Vermont, where it was removed early in the following year. Dr. S. L. Hooker and his estimable lady were the first to take charge of affairs in the new building, and right well did they perform their duties. In 1874, a wing was added and the school divided into four departments, in which form it now remains, a pride to every citizen.

In the year 1856, the Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad, now Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, reached Black Earth. It was the original intention of the managers to put up a large depot, round house, etc., provided the land could be procured at reasonable figures. The owner of the land, in his cupidity, demanded an exorbitant sum for the ground desired, which so enraged the company's management that they refused to do more than put in a side track, and the citizens were compelled to erect the first depot building. For many years this bitter feeling existed toward the village, and but little was done by the company in way of improvements until

the extent of the patronage compelled the company to look more favorably upon the village. Until within the past five or six years, during which time the chinch bug has almost entirely destroyed the wheat crop in this vicinity, Black Earth has ranked among the greatest shipping stations on the line. At present, live stock is its chief export. During the year 1876, there were shipped 91 cars of hogs and 85 cars of cattle, while only about 38,000 bushels of wheat were shipped. The total freight shipments amounted to 6,373,740 pounds. The receipts for the same period were 2,700,295 pounds.

At the time this sketch is penned, the population of the town is about 1,000; the village claiming a little over one-half of the number. The population is mixed, being made up principally of Americans, Norwegians, Germans and English. But little manufacturing is carried on, except in those branches dependent upon the agricultural people for support.

The business of the village at the time of this writing may be summed up as follows: Isaacson & Nordrum, J. Bjornstad & Co., K. Erickson, Julius Weissenborn, dry goods and groceries; T. Barber & Son, hardware; J. Holden, drugs; A. P. Winden, merchant tailor; A. H. Anderson, confectioner and barber; J. Schanel, furniture; Mrs. E. S. Parker, Mrs. H. Piper, millinery; Miss E. H. Richards, Miss Mary Severson, dress making; George Zeller, hotel; Burnett & Son, publishers *Advertiser* and general steam printing; C. Lange, Ed. Kirst, harnessmakers; K. J

Mjelde, Gilbert Anderson, R. Lutzow, shoemakers; C. Peters, photographer; Ole Rustebakke, jeweler; Peter Johnson, general machine shop; F. Voss, O. J. Wick, M. Hanson, blacksmiths; U. D. Wood, P. Johnson, planing mills; M. H. Myers, Ole Jordet, wagonmakers; John Peterson, carpenter; John Muskat, A. A. Steensrud, Paul Copley, Meltzer & Peterson, saloons; Stanford & Logan, Ward Brothers, Isaacson & Nordrum, grain buyers; John Adams, Isaacson & Nordrum, Stanford & Logan, stock buyers; Ward Brothers, George Bate, lumber; Stanford, Logan & Co., flour mill; E. H. Sackett, saw and carding mill; U. P. Stair, W. H. Robbins, physicians; S. Charlesworth, lawyer and insurance agent; Manwaring, Beatty & Wilson, proprietors Black Earth cheese factory; F. Hickstine, butcher; S. Barker, drayman; William Showers, cooper.

Its public edifices are, three churches — Methodist, Congregational and Episcopal — a fine school building, with four separate departments, and a two-story town hall, situated in the center of a beautiful park.

With a good location, a splendid surrounding country, excellent water power, and all advantages given by nature, the subject of this meagre sketch can well claim a place in the front rank of Dane county villages.

## PRIMROSE.

BY HON. G. TOLLEFSON.

This township lies in the southwestern part of the county, on its south boundary line, which separates it from the town of New Glarus, Green county, about eighteen miles southwest of Madison, and known as township 5 north, of range 8 east. The town is well watered in the northern part, by the west branch of the Sugar river, and also by two tributaries of the same, furnishing the town with an abundance of water and good marsh land. The face of the country is undulating, agreeably diversified with oak openings and prairie. There is considerable highland or small ridges, in which there is excellent stone for building purposes.

On section eleven there is a large rock that stands out in strong contrast with its surroundings, and is composed of several blocks of stone, raised one above the other to the height of about fifty feet, the lower one of which measures nearly twenty-five feet in diameter, while the top block is about fifty feet. It is familiarly called the "Devil's Chimney," because of its supposed resemblance to the form of a chimney. In 1850 a man named Joel Blitz, said to be an old sailor, climbed to the top by means of ropes which were thrown over it and fastened on the ground on the opposite side. He planted a flag on the top, the staff of which is still remaining. The feat was never known to have been done before or since. The base

of this chimney is, like many other noted places of historical interest, covered with a profusion of names and dates from all over the United States.

Mount Julia, another of the curiosities of the town, is an oblong ridge of rock, surmounted with trees, about 200 feet high, 250 feet broad, and about 1,600 to 1,700 feet long. It is, in some places, somewhat precipitous, indeed it indicates as if it had at a very recent date been entirely so, but from the wash by rains from the top, it is now quite accessible.

The first settlers in the town of Primrose were David Thomas and family, Robert Speers and family, W. Speers, Edmund Speers, W. Underhill, Robert Harrington, Mr. Scoville, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Peck and Hall C. Chandler. Mr. R. Speers gave the town its name.

Of the Norsemen, who now constitute a large majority of the population of Primrose, Christian Hendrickson from Lier, Norway, was the first settler. He came here in 1846, and still lives on his old farm. Two years later — 1848, more Norsemen arrived, among whom were Niels Evenson, Salve Jorgenson, Niels N. Skogen, who were followed in 1849 by Gunolf Tollefson and Peter Haslerud. When Mr. Tollefson bought his land, only 80 acres had been purchased in the town, the other settlers having only preëmpted the pieces of land on which they were living.

The first school house was built on section 17, in 1847, but the town now has seven school houses. The first teacher was Gunnuld Jackson.

The first church in Primrose was built by the Norse Lutherans. The name of the congregation was: "The

Primrose Norse Evangelical Lutheran Congregation;" it was connected with the Norse Evangelical Lutheran Church of North America, and the church edifice here referred to, was erected in 1856 on section 21. The first minister who preached to an organized congregation was Elling Eielson. The second pastor of this congregation was Arne Boyum. The third was Ole Torgerson, and its present minister is P. Solberg.

A few years after the organization of the above named congregation, another Norse Lutheran Church was organized in this town by the Rev. A. C. Preus. This one joined the so-called Norse Synod. Its second pastor was P. M. Brodahl, and its present preacher is John Field, of the Norse Synod. This congregation erected in 1866 a church, which was consumed by fire in 1873, and has not been rebuilt.

Finally, there is a third Norse Lutheran congregation, which was organized in 1869, by Rev. C. L. Clausen; its second pastor was Prof. A. Weenaas, and its present preacher is M. F. Gjertsen of Stoughton. From the above it appears that the statement in the Dane County Atlas "that Rev. A. C. Preus was the first Lutheran pastor in Primrose" is incorrect.

There has always existed the best of feeling between the different nationalities in Primrose. To this there is but one exception. In the small village of Mt. Vernon, whereof a part is situated within the limits of the town, there lived in the early days of Primrose a man called Dr. Byam, and with him his two brothers and their families, all Americans. Dr. Byam and his brothers had, by their tricky and dishonest practices, and by repeated acts of rascality toward the citizens of the town, made themselves odious to such an ex-

tent that the farmers decided to get rid of them. So they got together, about seventy in number, with Dick Chandler as their chosen leader. On the evening agreed upon they proceeded to Dr. Byam's house, armed with axes, crow-bars and other weapons, and asked to speak with him. The rascal, who suspected what was in store for him, sent his wife to the party outside with the answer that he was not at home. But the farmers were not to be bluffed off in this manner, and when he refused to come out they began to tear down the house, and were about throwing it into the stream near by. Fear now seized the doctor, and he came out, upon the pledge of three farmers that no harm should be done to him before they had properly discussed the matter. He had to go with them into the flour mill near by. Here he was tried and found guilty of several grossly dishonest transactions, among which it was proved that he, with a patent churn, had defrauded several farmers of their lands. The sentence was that Dr. Byam, his brothers and their families must leave Mt. Vernon and Primrose within twenty-four hours, and the rascal was prudent enough to obey this decision. One of Dr. Byam's brothers was tarred and feathered, and the other, who also defied the will of the farmers and came back to town after a load of hay, was also made to feel that the farmers were in earnest when they forbade any of the Byams returning to Primrose. As soon as he had gotten the hay into his wagon, the farmers set fire to it. The horses ran away, as a matter of course, when the hay-load got to burning, and the man had to save his life as best he could by taking to his legs. Since that time none of the brothers Byam have made

any attempt to settle in Primrose. Of course the Byam brothers brought suit against the seventy farmers, but the latter employed George B. Smith, of Madison, as their lawyer, and the case ended in an almost complete acquittal of the farmers. They simply had to pay the costs of the suit. Although the action taken against Mr. Byam and his brothers doubtless was perfectly just, the citizens of Primrose of to-day have changed their opinion in reference to ways and means, and would not again take the law into their own hands to protect themselves against vagabonds and rascals.

Another circumstance that took place in the pioneer days of our town, was a conflict between Primrose and the adjoining town of Montrose. An old man, by name Mr. Jackson, in Primrose, owned a claim covered with good oak timber. This timber some of the settlers in the town of Montrose tried to get possession of, and so they came up in tolerable large numbers, having Mr. L—— for their leader, and equipped with teams, sleds, axes, etc., so as to be able to take all the logs down to Montrose. As soon as the people of Primrose found this out, the message of "war," was sent from neighbor to neighbor throughout the town, and an army was soon brought together. The end of the war was that the Montrose party had to go home with their sleds empty, while the Primrose people took the logs home to Mr. Jackson's house.

Politically, we have had many interesting incidents but none quite as rich as the following, told from Blue Mounds, our neighboring town.

It was the day before election. Mr. Dean and Mr.

Burdick of Madison, both candidates for office, came to Blue Mounds to naturalize a number of Norwegians. The Norwegians, thirty or forty in number, were placed in a row and all sworn in at once, upon which Mr. Dean passed up the line, handing to each man his certificate of naturalization, and the ticket he wanted them to vote the next day, urging them to be sure to vote the ticket he gave them and no other. The new-fledged citizens being very conscientious and anxious to keep their pledges, appeared at the polls the next day; but the returning board were the ones who were surprised when they came to count the votes in the evening, and found that some of them had voted their naturalization certificates instead of tickets. The Norwegians in Primrose never were quite as conscientious as that.

In Primrose no one has ever had license to sell any kind of intoxicating drink.

All the factories we have is a flour mill on section seven, built in 1858.

The Hon. Gunolf Toleffson was the first member of the legislature.

S. Julle is a practicing physician in this and adjacent towns.

## BLOOMING GROVE.

BY JAMES KAVANAUGH,

This township is one of the most interesting portions of Dane county, which, from its early occupation by the natives and the unmistakable evidences of their rude productions that have been found from time to time, render it full of studious contemplation and instruction. Its proximity to the beautiful city of Madison, whose light shines upon a hill that cannot be hid, makes it at once desirable for all agricultural and remunerative purposes; its location and soil being well adapted to all industrial pursuits.

Abram Wood, the man who superintended the building of Mrs. Eben Peck's house, the first house in Madison, was the first settler; he lived at Winnequah, and had a squaw wife, a daughter of the chief De Kaury. When Simeon Mills came to Madison, by way of Janesville, he crossed the Catfish three times, and finally landed at Winnequah. Here he found Wood, and through him was able to bargain with two Indian boys, for fifty cents each, to carry him across the lake to Madison, a favor which he was unable to persuade the boys to do before.

Robert L. Ream (in Durrie's History of the Four Lakes) says that on a small estuary or spring on Third Lake, he saw a red fox fishing for pickerel, which he caught by springing suddenly into the water and

bringing the fish out, and then sitting down, quietly devoured the fruit of his labor.

The town of Blooming Grove is known as town 7 north, of range 10, and situated in the center of the county, about four miles east of Madison. It was originally a part of Madison, but was organized a separate town April 2, 1850, at a meeting held for that purpose at the house of R. W. Lansing. N. J. Tompkins was elected chairman; Wm. J. Reese and John L. Lewis, associate supervisors; Dr. H. A. Tiffany, town clerk; Ben. W. Caswell, treasurer; Josephus Lansing, assessor; Rev. John G. Miller, superintendent of schools. Mr. Miller having to leave for the east, R. W. Lansing was appointed to serve in his place. Mr. Miller, from 1845 to 1850, served in the capacity of a missionary among the Germans in Wisconsin, and recalls a very striking contrast between the homes of the citizens of to-day and those of former times. The Germans were very few then, but there were large settlements of Norwegians, a great number of whom preferred building their houses in excavations made in a hill or bluff, where they boarded up the sides with lumber.

Elder Miller purchased some land in Blooming Grove, next to Doctor Tiffany, and others who were among the first settlers. About this time Doctor Tiffany came to Elder Miller, stating that they had better organize a town of their own and be separated from Madison, so as to manage their own affairs and save expense. Accordingly a petition was made to the board of supervisors and the request granted, and on

the 2d of April, 1850, town officers were elected. Some time after the organization the Doctor spoke of naming the town, but had not as yet found a suitable name for it. Elder Miller asked the privilege of naming the town. The Doctor said, "Very well, Elder, if you have a suitable name, let us have it." Having been privileged to travel through this country for several years he readily recognized the beauties of nature which surrounded him, as he behold at a short short distance, the burr and black oak, resembling an Ohio and Pennsylvania orchard, and the prairies full of wild flowers in great abundance, of the most beautiful colors imaginable, so that no florist could have arranged his plants more artistically than was visible all around. With this scene before him, the Elder said, "I think the town names itself — Blooming Grove." "You have hit it, Elder," said the Doctor, "it is a Blooming Grove;" and so as its name was given, so does it continue in reality a Blooming Grove.

The first German church and congregation was organized and built in the southeast corner of Blooming Grove, in the year 1853, under the inspection and care of Rev. J. H. Ragatz, of the Evangelical Association. The present pastor is Rev. T. Umbrecht.

The Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and the Watertown division of the same road, pass through various sections of the town.

The earlier inhabitants found this township in a wild, unimproved condition, and in possession of the Indians, who had rudely cultivated a large portion of

the lands on the west bank of Monona, directly opposite Madison. The evidences of their rough culture have not entirely disappeared at this time. There are three mounds along the west bank of said lake still apparent. Many of the Indian relics have been found in and about these mounds; but they have never been thoroughly opened and explored. The Indians, in greater or less numbers, have habitually and annually revisited this delightful resort, to engage in fishing and hunting; the lake at all times affording abundant supplies of fish and game. About twenty years ago, during a quarrel the Indians had among themselves, an Indian chief shot one of his braves and then threw him in the lake; the body was taken out subsequently and buried on the lake shore, on the land now owned by Robt. McComb, where the mound is still to be seen.* The following day after the murder, about twenty-five Indians, among whom was the wife of the murdered man, passed the residence of Mr. Geo. Zinck all riding on ponies, with the exception of this woman, who walked alongside leading her pony, which the Indians said it was necessary for her to do for a number of months, as evidence of her mourning for her husband.

When the Hon. Moses M. Strong, Levi R. Marsh and Mr. Potter left Milwaukee on the 16th day of January, 1837, and traveling on horeback through Prairie village (now Waukesha), Fort Atkinson and

* A statement is also made in reference to the above fact, that the Indian committed suicide while suffering from the effect of a fever.

First Lake, for the purpose of visiting the newly located seat of government, they took the Indian trail from Second Lake to Third, and arrived on the southeast side in the town of Blooming Grove near Winnequah, where Mr. Strong taking his field glass fixed upon a bay on the opposite shore in a northwesterly direction as the most probable direction of the section line, and crossing the lake on the ice, struck the meander post of the government surveyor at the foot of King street, and through the center of which the section line runs.

The early settlement of the town was greatly retarded for want of ready facilities for obtaining the necessaries of life, Madison affording but small amounts and at enormous prices, and Milwaukee being the nearest market (95 miles) where even the smallest demands of the citizens could be occasionally supplied. However, by economy, patience and perseverance, the forests were subdued and cleared, and the richest productions of the soil soon produced an abundance for home consumption, and the people became happy and hopeful; and now think they have the richest and most productive soil, the most beautiful farms, and enchanting scenery of any other town in the county. Its healthful condition has ever been proverbial, and from some of its eminences may be seen, and at once, the 2d, 3d, and 4th lakes, also the city of Madison and the historic Blue Mounds, twenty-five miles west of Madison, a sight full of grandeur and magnificence. Bounded on the west by Lake

Monona, the best and most placid sheet of water of the four lakes, its shores are easily accessible over a bed of white gravel, looking like brilliants set in the diadem of nature. Here bathing may be freely indulged in, our town having no prohibitory law; and for aquatic sports, in boating and fishing, it cannot be excelled. Part of sections seven and eight, all of section eighteen, and nearly all of nineteen, lie beneath the waters of Lake Monona, while sections twenty-eight and thirty-three are mostly covered by Lake Waubesa. The Catfish river connects the two, running through sections 28 and 29. There are some smaller streams in the town, upon one, Mr. Dunning erected a sawmill in the year 1841. Dr. Tiffany was the first physician in the town. Dr. Pelton came shortly afterwards.

There are a number of genial resorts on this side of the lake, where sumptuous repasts may be had in good order and at moderate rates. Steamboats ply the lake at all reasonable hours, and pleasure seekers have the freest and fullest rational enjoyments. The citizens are all farmers and hard workers, as the delightful and growing condition of their farms will show, and are proverbial for genial hospitality and high intelligence. The soil is of the very best quality that could be desired. The town has twelve school districts, and contains a population of 1,500 inhabitants.

Blooming Grove Grange, No. 250, was organized in 1874, and meets weekly at the Town Hall.

Monona Lodge, No. 285, I. O. of G. T., meets every Wednesday evening at the Town Hall.

The Cottage Grove Fire Insurance Company, comprising the towns of Cottage Grove and Blooming Grove, and adjoining towns, was organized March 24th, 1875, with the following incorporators:

James Bell, Daniel Bechtel, John S. Daily, Henry Peters, G. Timmerman, John S. Gallagher, G. M. Nichols, Wm. F. Uphoff, Richard Gallagher, John Sprecher, Jacob Baringer, John Wolf, C. Gousmann, Fred Pepper, Casper Storcks, H. Witte, Francis Zink, Chas. Jorks, C. Rodefeld, Wm. M. Townsend, Francis Good, Robert Gallagher, C. Uphoff, H. Hippe, M. E. Emerson, Mrs. C. H. Pellage, C. Horfmacher, C. Kammier, H. Drakley, E. Steinhaur, George Pellage, John Maeder, A. B. Emerson, Fred Schultz, C. Drakley.

The following officers were elected at first meeting:

Wm. F. Uphoff. *president;* Daniel Bechtel, *secretary;* John S. Daily, *treasurer;* M. E. Emerson, Henry Peters, G. Timmerman, James Bell and J. S. Gallagher, *directors.*

The company commenced business on the 8th day of June, in the same year, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. The company insures all kinds of farm property, and is in a prosperous condition, and has up to this date, August 20, 1877, only sustained two small losses, amounting to $92, and has increased its capital to $270,000. Its present officers are:

James Bell, *president;* Daniel Bechtel, *secretary;* John S. Daily, *treasurer;* Philetus Hurd, Henry Kleinefelter, G. Timmerman, H. M. Harriman and Wm. F. Uphoff, *directors.*

The town officers of 1877 are: *Supervisors* — Daniel Bechtel, *chairman*, Matthew Conlan, William M. Townsend; *town clerk* — James Kavanaugh; *assessor* — Wm. H. Pauli; *treasurer* — Holmes Halverson.

In 1870 a town hall was built; previously town business was transacted in different houses of the town.

# MADISON.

BY H. A. TENNEY.

Owing to the wide area of the original town, the creation of villages and a city, and great municipal changes, it is difficult to make a satisfactory sketch of the town of Madison, since the shifting scene of forty years often leaves one in doubt what to include and what to reject, either as to boundaries, or as to early settlers. Strictly speaking the pioneer citizens of the village and city are a part of, and belong to, the town, and no sketch could be considered complete which did not include them, as many of them were the most prominent actors in early times. From the material at command I have made the best classification in my power. It is not entirely satisfactory to myself, and doubtless will not be to many who may read these pages and whose names have been necessarily omitted. I beg all to look upon this production with charity and a kindly eye to the difficulties of the undertaking.

Who first Visited the Lake Country. — Ebenezer Brigham, the first settler within the limits of Dane county, was probably the first white American who visited the site of Madison. In repeated conversations with the writer, many years since, he stated that, in company with a few other prospectors, he erected a cabin at Blue Mounds in 1828, and, having done so, accompanied by three others, a few days later, made a trip to Fort Winnebago, then a new frontier outpost, to ascertain whether supplies could be obtained there, and what facilities existed for the shipment of lead. He had heard of the Lake Country from the Indians, and, on his return,

struck south at a venture, and the same night camped on the hill on which Madison is now located, eight years before the site was entered by Doty and Mason. Impressed with the beauty of the spot, in a moment of enthusiasm, he predicted that a city would in time grow up there, and that it might become the future capital of a state. He was a warm, personal friend of Doty, and it was probably through him that knowledge of the place was first communicated. It is not probable that Doty and his party, who visited the region in 1829 for the purpose of examination with reference to entering land, did so at random, and without previous information as to the existence of the lakes, or that they were the first comers here. The government surveys were not completed until 1834. At any rate, I record the statement of Mr. Brigham, made to me on several occasions, and place it in opposition to such historical works as give Doty and his party the credit of "discovery." No one who personally knew Brigham would for a moment question his veracity on this or any other subject. He was a pure type of western pioneer manhood, modest, quiet, unassuming, and never given to boasting. I ought to add, that he gave me the names of the companions who made the trip with him, but they have unfortunately been lost. He spoke of the excursion simply as a mere incident of his early experience in the country, and repeated to me what is above recorded the last time I met him, but a few weeks before his death.

A Pioneer Scene. — The first comers found everything in a primitive condition. The hand of man had not as yet made what, in modern terms, is called an "improvement." The waters tossed idly upon their pebbly beaches, unfurrowed by a keel. The rivers ran lazily through channels winding and crooked to such a degree as to prevent any rapidity of current. The

marshes and low grounds were dank in oozy slime, undrained, and with scarcely defined boundaries. Forests spread out on all sides over hill and dale. The prairies at rare intervals came down to the shores. Birds of passage in innumerable flocks swarmed upon all the waters and low grounds. The stately swan came fearlessly to feed or make his nest; the pelican and crane, seen standing in long lines about the shores, gave strange animation to the scene, as they sought their finny prey. Ducks, geese, all varieties of water-fowl, in multitudes beyond computation, everywhere dotted the waters, while fish in great variety of species filled the pellucid depths.

Nor was the land less densely peopled with wild animal life. The elk, deer, bear, wolf, fox, with many other species, found here a home and natural supplies for every want. The eagle and hawk were lords of the air. Songsters filled the woods with melody. The prairie hen, grouse, sand-hill crane, quail and other species abounded in the openings and prairies. And to this may be added the beaver, not as yet exterminated, the otter, mink, muskrat, etc., some individuals of which even yet survive. Add to these things Indian encampments about the shores, with their rude wigwams, their light canoes, their toil-worn squaws, their elfish pappooses and lazy warriors, and we shall have in brief retrospect the scene that greeted the pioneers of the Lake Country in the seasons of verdure and sunshine. It was a land without roads, bridges, or artificial landmarks, other than recent surveys, in which the only reliable guide to the traveler was his compass, and his successful journeying depended almost wholly upon his endurance, fortitude and practical good sense.

Almost every prominent point was, in the pioneer time, covered with the embossed works of races classed

now under the meaningless name of "Mound Builders." The ages were marked here with the symbols of this mysterious people, with a richness and profusion that proved long residence, and keen appreciation of all that was most beautiful in nature. About every variety of form of structure known in the north were to be met with — beasts, birds, reptiles and men. That any memory of them has been preserved, is due to the labors of a LAPHAM and one or two others. The plow has been as great a leveler as death — one removing the race, and the other eradicating its monuments. Our fields, indeed, are little else than the cemeteries of a people whose origin was doubtless cotemporaneous with the mammoth, the mastodon and the elephant. Nearly all their great works have now disappeared from the scene. Their unhonored dust scarce survives as a memory. Modern civilization has triumphed over the graves of a mighty past. Unless speedily surveyed, what still remain of these works — and they are still numerous in the woodlands — will soon meet the common fate. Is there no one, in this eleventh hour, to re-map the outlines of what still remain?

FROM 1836 TO 1846. — Madison was the parent town of Dane county, the first named, the first organized, and, with the exception of a single individual, the first settled. As its original boundaries probably coincided with those of the county, it is doubtful whether Ebenezer Brigham, the pioneer of all this section of country, ought not to be classed as its first settler, though living at Blue Mounds, as the township is now named. If he may not properly be thus classified, then Eben Peck and family are entitled to that distinction, by arriving a few weeks in advance of others who have remained permanently located from the beginning, while his stay was not of many years duration.

The first entry of land in the town was made April 6, 1836, by James D. Doty and Stevens T. Mason, covering most of the present city site; and although the place then had no name, as other tracts about were soon taken, that date may be considered as the origin of all improvements and changes that have since followed.

Anything like a correct history of the town requires a classification into three parts, according to municipal changes, which may be thus stated:

1. From 1836 to 1846, during most of which period the town and county were substantially the same, geographically, and had substantially the same officials.

2. The charter of the village in 1846, without interference with the town government, except as to purely municipal matters, which incorporation continued for ten years.

3. The chartering of the city in 1856, which ousted the village and town authority, and severed the two forms of government previously existing.

The first election precincts into which the town was divided were ordered by the county commissioners May 15, 1839, viz.: Madison and Moundville (Blue Mounds). These were then the only points of settlement. The total population was estimated at three hundred. The county was still attached to Iowa for taxable and judicial purposes, and as yet no courts had been held. At the election held for delegate to congress, August 10, 1839, the total vote cast for all candidates was seventy-three. County officers, justices of the peace, etc., were at this time appointed by the governor. Officers of election were appointed by the county commissioners. Township government, in the sense we now understand it, can scarcely be said, during these ten years, to have had an existence. A quarrel between Gov. Doty and the legislature, in 1842–3, finally changed the whole

system by taking the appointing power from the executive and conferring upon the people the right to elect their own local officers.

The population, too, of this decade, was much too small and diffused either to support or to bear much civil control. There was little occasion for government where there were none to govern; and the pioneers of the wilderness were too poor in worldly goods to assume unnecessary burthens. The worst victims of the time were such speculators as had loaded heavily with wild lands, and lots in the village plat. They were naturally regarded as fair game, and whenever anything of a public nature was undertaken, it was almost always at their expense. The financial crash of 1836–7 had carried every enterprise down, and anything like renewed prosperity was not felt in the interior of Wisconsin until about 1845. The products of the farm literally had no commercial value. Wheat sold, when there was any market, at twenty-five cents per bushel, and when it reached fifty cents, farmers considered themselves on the high road to wealth, as they were, for lands could be bought at less than government price, and wants were much fewer than at the present time. It is economy and general cheapness, and not high prices and extravagant notions, that makes communities rich. Poverty and industry are the saving power of states.

From 1846 to 1856. — In 1846, the town was for the first time practically organized, and the village of Madison incorporated. The corporation did not conflict with the town government, and citizens participated equally in both elections, as if no internal municipal organization existed. The town, indeed, was for several years the controlling local authority.

Owing to the effects of the panic of 1836–7, the settlement of the territory had been extremely slow. Madi-

son was far isolated from all neighborhood, and the gain in population from year to year was scarcely appreciable.

To show more clearly the exact location of population in 1846, I have copied two extracts from the town records: one creating new voting precincts in the town, which then embraced twenty-four townships (Albion, Dunkirk and Fitchburg having previously been designated as voting places, in addition to Madison and Moundville), and the order of the commissioners of common schools dividing the town into school districts in accordance with law, to wit:

NEW PRECINCTS. — *June 29, 1846.* — At a meeting of the board of supervisors, held at the county room this day, the following precincts were ordered to be established for holding general elections:

*Ordered*, "That a precinct be established at the house of George McFadden [now town of Montrose] in the town of Madison and county of Dane, to be known by the name of "Grand Springs Precinct," and that Geo. McFadden, Daniel M. Holt and Russell Tiffany be, and hereby are, appointed judges of election for said precinct.

That a precinct be established at the house of John Clark, in the town of Madison [now probably town of Dane], to be known by the name of "Dane Precinct," and that John Clark, Arnold Downing and Freedom Simons be, and they hereby are, appointed judges of election for said precinct.

That a precinct be established at the house of John M. Thomas, in the town of Madison and county of Dane [now Cross Plains], to be known by the name of "Cross Plains Precinct," and that John M. Thomas, Ripha Worden and John S. Mann be, and hereby are, appointed judges of election for said precinct.

That a precinct be established at the house of Amos Beecher, in the town of Madison and county of Dane [now Cottage Grove], to be known by the name of "Cottage Grove Precinct," and that Horatio Catlin, Roswell Brown and Charles M. Nichols be, and are hereby appointed judges of election of said precinct."

The erection of these precincts gave a total of nine voting places in the county, and the names then given were, with an exception or two, adopted by the towns when afterwards organized. The then town of Madison, by the change, had six places established for voting within its limits.

NAMING THE TOWNS. — Up to this time but two or three townships had received names, and many were as

yet without their first settler. They were known only by number and range; and nothing was more puzzling for a time to "old settlers" than to recognize towns by the names given them by successive boards of supervisors in subsequent years. Even now the writer confesses himself often in doubt as to the location of some of the towns from their names, long as they have been established, without reference to a map—having learned in the "old way." There is quite a difference between remembering thirty-six names and two or three, as in the early time, while the plats of survey were extremely simple.

Schools and School Districts. — The first school district in either town or county was created December 25, 1841, on the formal application, by petition, of Almon Lull, I. W. Bird, E. Irving, P. W. Matts and Nicholas Smith. David Brigham, James Morrison and Bush Fairchild were commissioners of schools. The district was numbered 1, and comprised the whole township of Madison as at present organized, including most of the city site. In February, 1844, the district was enlarged by adding to it town 8, range 9 — now Westport. Up to 1846, seventeen districts had been designated in different portions of the county, to meet the wants of new settlement, but they were entirely disconnected, and without union or uniform plan. Upon the formal beginning of town government by popular vote, the town of Madison, as then organized, was formally divided into districts, by the order following, given in full:

Town School Districts in 1846. — The official division of the town of Madison into school districts will, perhaps, better illustrate the meagerness of population in 1846, than anything I might say on the subject. It was as follows:

"Be it known that on this 29th day of June, A. D. 1846, we, the undersigned commissioners of common schools for the town of Madison, county of Dane and territory of Wisconsin, have divided

the said town of Madison into districts, and have numbered them as follows, to-wit:

No. 1. — Sections 1, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22 and 23 of town 7, range 9 (now plat of Madison), and all of town 8, range 9 (now Westport).

No 2. — The west half of town 7, range 9 (now Madison).

No. 3. — Sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 in town 7, range 9 (now Madison).

No. 4. — All of town 6, range 11 (now Pleasant Springs).

No. 5. — Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and the west half of sections 11, 14 and 23, in town 8, range 10 (now Burke).

No. 6. — Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, in town 8, range 10 (Burke), and secs. 25 to 36 in town 9, range 10 (now Windsor).

No. 7. — Sections from 1 to 24, in town 9, range 10 (now Windsor).

No. 8. — All of town 6, range 8 (now Verona).

No. 9. — All of town 5, range 8 (now Montrose).

No. 10. — The south half of town 7, range 11 (now Cottage Grove).

No. 11. — All of town 9, range 8 (now Dane).

No. 12. — Sections 13, 14, 15 and the south half of town 8, range 6 (now Black Earth).

No. 13. — The north half of town 8, range 6, excepting sections 13, 14 and 15 (now Mazomanie).

No. 14. — Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of town 8, range 7 (now Berry).

No. 15. — All of town 9, range 9 (now Vienna).

No. 16. — The north half of town 7, range 11 (Cottage Grove), and all of town 7, range 10 (now Blooming Grove), and sections 12, 13, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 and the east half of sections 11, 14 and 23 of town 8, range 10 (Burke).

No. 17. — All of town 8, range 8 (now Springfield).

No. 18. — All of town 7, range 8 (now Middleton).

No. 19. — All of town 8, range 7, excepting sec. 3 to 10 (now Berry).

No. 20. — All of town 7, range 7 (now Cross Plains).

No. 21. — All of town 6, range 7 (now Springdale).

No. 22. — All of town 5, range 7 (now Primrose).

No. 23. — All of town 7, range 6 (now Vermont).

No. 24. — All of town 6, range 6 (now Blue Mounds).

No. 25. — All of town 5, range 6 (now Perry).

No. 26. — All of town 7, range 12 (now Deerfield)."

This order is signed by J. Gillett Knapp, Benjamin Holt, and F. H. Talcott, school commissioners. It is doubtful if there were a dozen schools actually kept in the entire county. It will be seen that the commissioners divided the then town of Madison into districts, incorporating whole townships where there were no, or few inhabitants, and making them of lesser size only when actual colonies had been begun. Viewed in the

light of the present, this order is a very significant indication of the then isolated location of settlements and population.

The vote for state government at the spring election, 1846, was 200 for, and 47 against. A great many settlers deemed it too early to establish a state, as the general government relieved them of all burthens by paying the territorial expenses. The proposition was barely carried, mainly by the vote cast in villages and cities, through the activity of politicians desirous of place and distinction.

Vote for Town Officers in 1846. — The population of the town at this time may be inferred from the vote cast at the election held April 7, for town officers. Political division ran very high at this period, and as the settlers were all young or middle aged, it is presumed that few or none failed to attend the polls. The result as to supervisors was as follows:

| *Democratic.* | | *Whig.* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| James R. Larkin | 134 | Ebenezer Brigham | 110 |
| Edward Campbell | 119 | Benj. Dodge | 100 |
| Wm. C. Wells | 126 | Samuel G. Abbott | 98 |

If the 232 votes cast indicated an average of four non-voters to each, the total population of the town would have been 928, and it did not probably much exceed this, including, of course, the village.

Among the number voted for at this election, but few remain citizens of the present town, or now survive. J. D. Ruggles was elected clerk over E. M. Williamson by one majority. For treasurer, Darwin Clark was elected over Henry C. Parker. For collector, Andrus Viall was elected over Benjamin W. Wilcox and Abel Rasdall. For assessors, George Vroman, J. W. Thomas and William Larkin were elected over Wm. A. Webb, W. D. Bird and Michael M. McCord. For fence viewers, Eliab B. Dean, Jr., Thos. W. Sutherland and John

Y. Smith triumphantly defeated S. F. Blanchard, R. F. Lowdon and Samuel Parkhurst. Justices, Wm. N. Seymour, Nathaniel Wheeler and Alonzo Wilcox were chosen over Adam Smith, Barlow Shackleford and Nathan Spaulding. Of these and the lesser candidates, it is painful to note how many have disappeared from the scene of their labors.

The following items, extracted from the record of a few years, will give some idea of the doings and policy of the period:

The clerk, at a meeting in April, was ordered to procure a printed form for town orders, suitable books for a town record, and a proper seal. The total taxes voted for all purposes amounted to about seven mills. The English settlement in the lower part of Black Earth valley, just commenced, owing to the poverty of some of its members, cost the town quite a heavy sum for poor purposes, and was a subject of much controversy. Cattle of all kinds, except bulls and stallions, were permitted, by official action, to run at large in all highways, the owners not being liable for damages to any one whose premises were not enclosed by a legal fence.

At an election held April 6, 1847, the vote for state constitution "Yes" was 175; "No," 154. For license to sell liquors, "Yes," 27 votes; "No," 13. Equal suffrage to colored persons, "Yes," 18 votes; "No," 176. As yet the place had achieved but one colored "man and brother," and his voting enfranchisement was not popularly relished; and yet *Titus Kirkpatrick* was highly distinguished by the attentions received, both in prose and verse, as old settlers will all no doubt remember.

A genial kindness pervaded communities at this time, unknown to the present. How often a score of able bodied men left their own work to go out ten or twenty

miles to help a new settler raise his cabin, whose name even was scarcely known; and all without fee or reward. It was equally so with the sick, needy and destitute. The shams of modern society had no place here. The impulses of benevolence were sincere and genuine. Hypocrisy and selfishness had not as yet found a foothold. Degrees of wealth were not recognized as degrees in the scale of humanity. Piety was scarce; but practical good deeds were too common to attract notice. They were looked upon as matters of course.

A vein of waggery tinged the whole social order. Every one was joker or jokist — made victims of others, or was himself victimized. Humor and fun were standard coin. Their circulation reached every one. But it is almost impossible to record in words the spirit that escaped in its essence, and overflowed on all occasions. Mirth, indeed, flowed like a river with full banks, and there was no such thing as strangers to the flood. Hardships and trouble were alike forgotten in its presence. This mercurial impulse made a "smiling land" of a wide waste of fertile but unoccupied desert.

Nothing in the "show line" could at that time make its appearance without universal patronage. It did not matter whether good or bad, sport was bound to come out of it. Even the gravity of courts and legislatures were no barriers to the popular tendency. How vividly I recall the advent of a *circus*, in the summer of 1848.* The legislature was at the moment in dull and heavy session, myself reporting for the press. Suddenly strains of music floated into the Assembly Chamber.

* Mr. N. T. Hawes, of Fitchburg, states that the first circus exhibited in Madison was in the summer of 1844, and exhibited on the corner of the block now occupied by J. E. Fisher as a furniture warehouse. In the Dane county minutes there is a record made of one Geo. R. Spaulding as being licensed to exhibit the "North American Circus," in Dane county, for ninety days, dating July 5th, 1844. Also on July 16th, 1845, and July 11th, 1846, the firm of June & Turner were licensed for the same purpose, and for about the the same number of days each time.

A moment more, there was a rush of members for the windows over seats and desks, and then a stampede for the doors. The speaker stopped with a "motion" on his lips, his gavel dropped, and, with one or two jumps, he landed on the stairway, and thence to the floor below, and out into the park with the crowd, and was among the first to reach the street. The clerks, astonished for a moment, joined in pursuit; and the reporter stood in an empty house in the space of about a minute, which no one had adjourned, and so he adjourned himself. But to dwell on these memories would take a volume.

Events of General Importance. — The first event of local consequence was the location of the territorial capitol. At the time there was but one settler in the county. Next to it was the building of a steam sawmill on Fourth lake, near the present steamboat landing, whereby some oak lumber was obtainable for the floors of dwellings. Previous to this, the most "aristocratic" houses were covered with siding split by hand. Log houses were of course largely in excess. As this mill soon ceased work, owing to a quarrel over the ownership (having been built with territorial funds), Simeon Mills and William A. Wheeler, erected another in 1841, on a creek which empties into the northerly end of Third lake; and this small affair, which turned out 2,000 feet daily, of hard wood, was for a long time the sole reliance for a supply of lumber for the county. This mill was soon after sold to Philo Dunning, who run it for some years. Subsequently Mr. Mills built a steam mill on the edge of the marsh, between Main street and Washington avenue, in the year 1849. To his enterprise at this period and afterwards, the town and county owe far more than they have ever repaid. All these mills have, of course, long since disappeared. The crop of "prairie saw logs" is a thing of the past,

but one whose memory is even yet a fragrance to the old settlers.

In 1844 the first flouring mill was erected in the town by William A. Wheeler and Joseph Vroman, on a small branch of Sugar River in town 6, of range 8 (now Verona), and known as Badger Mill, which was the only grist mill for several years, and consequently the inhabitants were largely dependent upon Janesville and other towns in Rock river valley for their bread, until L. J. Farwell built a large flouring mill at the outlet of Lake Mendota, in 1851.*

The Era of Canal Projects. — Among events of these early times, the survey of a canal route from Rock river to the Wisconsin, by way of the Four Lakes, ought not to be omitted, as the "canal fever" preceded the "railroad mania." In 1838–9, Capt. Cram made a canal survey from Rock river to Madison, under instructions from the general government, and in the latter year, Capt. Alex. M. Mitchell continued it from the head of Fourth Lake to "Mud Lake," and down Black Earth valley to the Wisconsin, and pronounced the project "*perfectly feasible!*" Here, then, was a scheme worth

* To illustrate the dilemma of a community thus situated, let me give a brief example. On my first visit to Madison, in 1845, I was invited by Daniel M. Holt, an old acquaintance, to take tea with his family. On accompanying him to his house I soon discovered that his wife, from a whispered conversation, was in a "peck of trouble." Finally, Holt, turning to me, said, "It is no use to conceal any thing. We have to depend on Janesville for flour, and the 'flour man' is four days behind time. I bought an extra stock on his last visit, but the taverns and neighbors are all out, and we have lent until we have not an ounce for ourselves. I think the man must get along yet to-night. At any rate let us go out and watch the road for him. If he fails, we can't give you either bread or biscuit, for there is no such thing in town. You will have to fill up with potatoes and fish." We accordingly took up a position in the woods, near where the court house now stands, and eagerly scanned the "Janesville road." In about an hour a team was seen winding round the head of Third Lake, which proved to be the "flour man's." Some biscuit was speedily prepared, much to the relief of the wife, who persisted in feeling "mortified" at being caught in so common a predicament at that time in all families. The rule seemed to be that the "taverns" must be supplied in any event, for the good repute of the place, however short the citizens. Such a deprivation at the time, with me, as with others, would have simply excited a hearty laugh. But feminine hospitality was often put to a severe test in those days.

talking about — a water route both east and west from Madison, and our lakes, in imagination, all to be turned into reservoirs for steamers and canal boats! The ideas of the time were far ahead of present or possible reality. There was no such word as "visionary" to the new comer. A canal carried over a two hundred-feet crest, with no body of water as a feeder, did not seem an extravagant enterprise during this era of wild real estate speculation.

Scandinavian Immigration.—Norwegian settlement was commenced around Lake Koshkonong about 1840. It soon pressed into the southeast corner towns of Dane county. Dressed in the costume of their native land, with customs and manners wholly un-American, the Scandinavian was at first regarded with great curiosity by the native element. As a rule, they selected the hilly lands out of the government domain, and built their dwellings mainly in excavations, often invisible at a distance. When a census was taken in midwinter in 1847, as a preliminary to the convention to frame a state constitution, Joel P. Mann, who was making the enumeration, had great trouble in finding this class of the population. In this emergency, Mr. Burdick (*Elisha*, for short,) suggested a plan that was eminently successful. It was to gain a high hill in early morning, *count the smokes,* and multiply the number by ten! The census was soon after satisfactorily completed.

In the absence of polling places, the Norwegian settlers, in 1846, had to come to Cottage Grove (Beecher's place) to vote. There was much strife between political parties to gain this accession in strength, and the custom was, to send out a team on election day, with a deputy clerk to naturalize, together with a plethoric keg of whisky, and an agent to see that a supply of the *right kind* of tickets were given out and put into the ballot

box. The following was *said* at the time to be the form of proceeding in making citizens of the newly arrived:

*Officer to applicant* —"Hold up your hand. You swear." *Applicant*—"Yaw." *Officer*—"By Jesus Christ." *Applicant*—"Yaw." *Officer*—"*You vote the democratic ticket!*" *Applicant*—"Yaw." *Officer* —"Here is the straight vote. Go up to that window where you see those three men, and put it in the box, then come back and take a square drink. You are now invested with the whole dignity and every right of a free American citizen."

The Norwegians were all democrats at that time. At present, democratic votes are conspicuously absent among them when they go to the polls.

The wondrous career of the race in material wealth and mental improvement, under favorable and improving conditions, is, to the early American settlers, a marked phase in race development, conspicuous among all others witnessed in western life.

There were few German settlers then, one I recollect by the name of Xavier Jordan. I can only remember the names of three Irishmen, Thomas and Matthew Dunn and Peter Kavanaugh and their families. A dozen English families located, near what is now Mazomanie and towns of Springfield and Berry, and a few Scotchmen in this town and Verona, comprised the "foreign element." The American type was generally predominant.

Population, however, commenced flowing in very rapidly about this period, and but a short time elapsed before nearly every European nation had representatives among us. Owing to the rivalry between different counties, the census returns of the period are, on the score of exact accuracy, at least open to suspicion.

The railroad, also, which first reached us in 1854, was another event whose impulse is scarcely yet over. For the first time our people were tied to the outer world

by an enduring band — a tie whose cost many of them are not likely to forget. Its advent was regarded as a decidedly "big thing." Hundreds came from miles distant to see the first gravel train!

The Town as now Organized. — The present area of the township of Madison is about 11,400 acres of land — the balance water. It stands like a sheep that has passed through the hands of the shearer. Years of steady clipping had shrunk it to square boundaries, when the legislative shears made a final clip about 1859, and set off a few sections to the town of Burke. As a result, its parts are no longer "contiguous territory." The two northern corners, "McBride's Point" and "Livesey's Woods," are isolations — the voters from one side having to pass through Springfield and Middleton to get into their own town, and on the other, to traverse some five miles of city site to attend the polls. Except these breaks, the town encloses the city as the shell does the kernel, or the setting the gem, and embraces about all the beauties of location and landscape that the city is so boastful over. The promontories and peninsulas, headlands, bluffs and bays are nearly all in the town, which probably has no counterpart in outline elsewhere upon the globe.

Geologically, the valleys and lowlands lie at the junction of the Lower or Potsdam sandstone with the Lower Magnesian limestone, so that the wash from the hills is a perpetual source of fertility. In addition to this, the town is in the very focus of ancient glacial activity, which not only scooped out the lake basins, but piled the debris, mixed with transported material, along the skirts of our hills and into nearly all our valleys. The surface may be said to be nearly all rolling, and without levels, other than marsh grounds. The soil is generally good, and its fertilizing qualities likely to endure.

There are no waste lands, or too little to make a note of in a general description. On the whole, our *half a town* has capabilities exceeding many whole ones elsewhere.

Our population numbers now about 1,000. The farms lead all other pursuits. We have six or seven school districts, no churches, one or two saloons, as many hotels, and little of mechanic arts, manufacturing or merchandising, *and no debt!* A more intelligent, quiet, orderly and harmonious people cannot be found in the whole state. For more than twenty years past it has been difficult to get any one to qualify as a justice of the peace, and during part of the time we have rarely had such an official; and the same is equally true of constables. With few exceptions our criminals have all been imported, and were not "to the manor born."

Eben Peck, the first person who located on the site of the city, is also credited with being the first who "broke the glebe" and turned the first furrow in the present town of Madison; and, for that matter, in the county of Dane. He broke about three acres, a little west of William Larkin's present homestead, in 1838, probably under the impression that it was government land; but, finding out his mistake, abandoned the work, and did not attempt cultivation. William Lawrence made a settlement near the north line of the town of Windsor, in 1838; but to what extent he broke the soil, if at all, is doubtful. In 1839, Abel Dunning and William D. Bird made breakings within the present town, and "Esq. Peaslee" did the same on the "76 farm," in Burke, which has passed through so many proprietors since. Wm. B. and G. H. Slaughter also settled in Middleton in the same year. Dunning sowed crops on his breaking in 1839, but Bird and others, it is reported, not until the next year. These two worthy gentlemen and pioneers are the fathers of agriculture in Dane county,

preceding in date all others now remaining or living, and have continued in their chosen profession from the beginning. Both have filled many public stations of great usefulness to the county, but none as conspicuous as their merits deserved. Neither have ever had leisure to run after office; and when they have accepted trusts of the kind, it has been done as a duty owed to community, rather than from any desire for place. The beginners of our farms are certainly worthy of having their names commemorated, and of every honorable distinction in the power of the community to confer.

Among others of our pioneers, the names of James R. Larkin, Jonathan Larkin, Daniel Larkin, William Larkin and B. F. Larkin, stand prominently and conspicuous as a family. To these should be added Harmon J. Hill, Andrus Viall, Russell and Daniel Sheldon, and many others not easily enumerated from memory — all good men — citizens to be proud of — worthy in all senses to have assisted in founding not alone a town and county, but the state as well. As all the old settlers in the city belonged to the town, their career, in a historical sense, is a part of our heritage.

***List of Principal Town Officers from 1846 to 1877.***

***1846.*** *Supervisors* — James R. Larkin, ch'n, Edward Campbell, Wm. C. Wells. *Road Commissioners* — John M. Griffin, Thos. Rathbone, Abiram Drakely. *Clerk* — J. Duane Ruggles. *Collector* — Andrus Viall. *Treasurer* — Darwin Clark. *Assessors* — Geo. Vroman, John W. Thomas, William Larkin. *School Commissioners* — J. G. Knapp, Benjamin Holt, F. H. Talcott. *Justices* — Wm. N. Seymour, Nathaniel Wheeler, Alonzo Wilcox. *Constables* — John Cottrill, Jas. Moore, Albert Skinner.

***1847.*** *Supervisors* — Wm. C. Wells, ch'n, Chester Bushnell, Abel Rasdall. *Road Commissioners* — J. M. Griffin, Lucius M. Palmer, Daniel Larkin. *Clerk* — J. Ripley Brigham. *Collector* — Squire Lamb. *Treasurer* — Darwin Clark. *Assessors* — Harmon J. Hill, D. A. Barnard, Nicholas Smith. *School Commissioners* — David H. Wright, Benjamin Holt, A. L. Collins. *Justices* — Charter Bushnell, Allen Harris, Geo. M. Oakley. *Constables* — John D. Welch, Wm. Rasdall, Joseph Pettin.

***1848.*** *Supervisors* — Wm. C. Wells, ch'n, Casper M. Rouse, N. S. Emmons. *Road Commissioners* — Clerk* — Robert L. Ream. *Collector* — B. F. Larkin. *Treasurer* — Daniel B. Sneeden. *Assessors* — Arch. Tredway, Alfred Main, S. M. Van Bergen. *School Commissioners* — Benj. Holt, John Nelson, D. H. Wright. *Justices* — H. J. Hill, Abram Ogden, B M. Caswell. *Constables* — Andrew Bishop, Alfred Main, John D. Welch.

Fence viewers and sealers of weights and measures omitted.

* This office seems to have been abolished by the legislature of 1847.

***1849.*** *Supervisors* — John Nelson, ch'n, Andrus Viall, R. F. Davis. *Clerk* — Robert L. Ream. *Collector* — Office abolished. *Treasurer* — M. G. Van Bergen. *Assessor* — Newton Emmons (but one elected). *Supt. of Schools* — D. H. Wright (but one elected). *Justices* — Abram Ogden, David H. Wright, William Welch. *Constables* — Alfred Main, A. M. Rasdall, Henry Carman.

***1850.**** *Supervisors* — Wm. N. Seymour, ch'n, Joel P. Mann, David A. Barnard. *Clerk* — Julius T. Clark.

***1851.*** *Supervisors* — Leonard J. Farwell,† Joel P. Mann, Richard T. Davis. *Clerk* — Johnson J. Starks. *Collector* — N. S. Emmons. *Assessor* — John T. Wilson. *Supt. of Schools* — D. N. Johnson. *Justices* — Geo. C. Albee, Wm. N. Seymour. *Constables* — Thos. Heeran, Squire Lamb, Wm. H. Foot.

***1852.*** *Supervisors* — Philo Dunning, ch'n, Jas. R. Larkin, Xavier Jordan. *Clerk* — James Donnellon. *Treasurer* — Casper Zwickey. *Assessor* — Robt. L. Ream. *Supt. of Schools* — Darwin Clark. *Justices* — Abram Ogden, William Welch. *Constables* — Thos. Heeran, Jos, Williams, Isaac Robertson.

***1853.*** *Supervisors* — J. T. Marston, ch'n, D. A. Barnard, Wm. D. Bird. *Clerk* — James Donnellon. *Treasurer* — Carl Habich. *Assessor* — C. M. Rouse. *Supt. of Schools* — John W. Hunt. *Justices* — Wm. N. Seymour, James R. Larkin. *Constables* — Michael Joyce, Daniel Cleghan, F. Guild.

***1854.*** *Supervisors* — Jehu H. Lewis, ch'n, Earnest Somers, H. J. Hill. *Clerk* — James Donnellon. *Treasurer* — Ernest Doerschlag. *Assessor* — C. G. Mayers. *Supt. of Schools* — David Holt. *Justices* — Abram Ogden, A. B. Braley. *Constables* — J. L. Roundy, J. P. Howard, C. Cleghan.

***1855.*** *Supervisors* — H. J. Hill, ch'n, S. M. VanBergen, Richard T. Davis. *Clerk* — Willett S. Main. *Treasurer* — Geo. C. Albee. *Assessor* — (No record made). *Supt. of Schools* — Darwin Clark. *Justices* — Wm. N. Seymour, Wm. Welch. *Constables* — I. E. Brown, Henry Rouse, Wm. McPyncheon.

The legislature of 1856 chartered the city of Madison, and the town, in area nearly as now organized, held its election in April. The following were the first officers chosen:

*Supervisors* — H. J. Hill, ch'n, B. F. Larkin, Philo Dunning. *Clerk* — H. A. Tenney. *Treasurer* — Daniel Larkin. *Supt. of Schools* — Joseph Chandler. *Justices* — Abel Dunning, Charles E. Morgan, Caleb Jewett. *Assessor* — Benjamin Piper. *Constables* — Chancellor Hill, R. G. Sheldon, Frank Mahew.

---

* I find no entry of record of a town election having been held in 1850. The above officers, however, are recorded as having served.

† Leonard J. Farwell purchased most of the northeast part of the village in 1847, visited Europe in 1848, and commenced improving his estate in 1849. Among the work he projected in 1851, was a large amount of ditching, etc. While absent, the whigs nominated him for chairman of the board of supervisors, and it was at once seen by the democrats that it was a formidable name to run against. To incite the needed opposition, Andrew Bishop, better known as "Elder," harrangued a crowd, saying, in substance, "that if Farwell was elected he would put the town into $10,000 expense for ditching his marsh, while his opponent, Barnard, would be eminently a safe man." Upon this, an Irishman on the outside of the crowd, nudging another, thus expressed himself: "Pat, do yes mind that now? If Farwell's elected he will spind tin thousand dollars a ditchin' the marsh, and Barnard niver a cint. Bish says so. Farwell's the man for us, be jabers. Divil a ha'p'orth do we give Barnard a vote." The result of Bish's effort was to give Farwell the whole Irish strength — a whig victory for the first time in many years. The notoriety given to the event made Farwell a year later, governor of Wisconsin. Simeon Mills and Gov. Farwell were the real founders of about every early enterprise to improve the country, and make Madison what it has since become. "Bish's" speech was the prime inspiration of Farwell's political advancement, aided by Col Botkin and others.

The whole number of votes cast at this election was 124, as against 1,425 the year previous, when connected with the city. The vote of the town during the past twenty years has rarely reached above 300, and then only in very exciting elections.

The following named gentlemen, in the order given, have served the town in the offices named since 1846:

*Chairmen of Board of Supervisors* — H. J. Hill, two terms, W. D. Bird, Thomas Reynolds, two terms, H. A. Tenney, Andrus Viall, Chancellor Hill, two terms, Abel Dunning, two terms, Henry Turvill, Ed. E. Bryant, George C. Russell, Henry A. Draper, William Windsor.

*Clerks* — Charles E. Morgan, Charles L. Ferris, James Kavanaugh, three years, Sinclair W. Botkin, two years, George W. Horton, George H. Mercer, William J. Petherick, Myron S. Piper, George W. Horton in 1866, 1867, 1868, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877.

*Treasurers* — Earnest Somers, Edward Newcomb, Michael Dunning, Benjamin Piper, two years, A. Phillips, C. H. French, H. J. Hill, Joseph Chandler, S. Williams, Samuel S. Chase, George A. Cary, Chancellor Hill, E. Hammersly, Charles Nelson, R. W. Rowe.

*Supt. of Schools* — H. A. Tenney, two years, Caleb Jewett and Henry Turvill, two years. By change in the school system, this office was abolished at the close of Mr. Turvill's term.

## PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.

In compiling a history in which events of a general character are recorded, many interesting anecdotes and pleasing personal recollections are frequently unintentionally omitted. We purposed giving our readers a chapter on "Personal Incidents of Pioneer Life," but our space forbids recording more than the following, the first of which, furnished us by the Hon. Geo. B. Smith, is a simple narative of an act, so genuinely unselfish, that it will be rare to find its equal any where.

A good many years ago an incident occurred here in Madison, illustrating high integrity, great generosity and singular unselfishness, which I think should be preserved.

Among the early settlers of Madison were two single men, Robert Moore, an Englishman, and James Dow, a Scotchman. Robert was always called "Bob," and James "Jimmie." Jimmie Dow lived always, when I knew him, all alone in a sort of hole in the ground on the Sauk road, about two miles west of Madison. "Bob" lived in town with old Uncle John Mallow, a brickmaker, with a large family. "Bob" often visited "Jimmie" at his cabin, in fact, I think he made "Jimmie's" house his headquarters. They were both genial, jolly good fellows, and both excessively

fond of their toddy. "Bob" was famous as a whistler. Every year, for many years, he used to whitewash the old Capitol fence, when he would always draw crowds by his remarkable whistling. "Jimmie" was a well digger, and often worked at day's work with his team of mules, which he always owned while I knew him. He could repeat Burns' poems by the hour, and always, to use his own expression, as "dry as a fesh." One afternoon "Bob" went out to "Jimmie's" and in the evening feeling quite unwell, he startled his friend "Jimmie" by telling him he was sure he should not live until morning. "Jimmie" protested that he was only fidgety and frightened. "Bob," was deeply impressed that he should die that night, and he said: "'Jimmie,' I owe you for borrowed money thirty or forty dollars, and I owe Uncle John Mallow more than that for board. Now, Jimmie, I am sure I shall die before morning, and if I do, I want you to take my gun and a note I have against a man in Columbus for $30, all I have in the world, and give them to Uncle John, for he is poor and has a large family to support, and you must lose your debt. If I live, I will pay you both." "Jimmie" said he would. Sure enough, "Bob" did die that night. When the funeral was over "Jimmie" took the gun and the note to Uncle John Mallow, and that very morning he brought the note to me at my house for collection, and told me this story. I collected the note. Mallow got his pay — "Jimmie" lost his debt. "Jimmie" remained here for a few years after the death of Bob, but finally left; where he went to I do not know. Two or three years ago he returned to visit his old friends, but this was no place for "Jimmie." I did not see him, but those who did, said he was still as "dry as a fesh."

Mr. E. M. Williamson says that Berry Haney and Pelkie, the Frenchman referred to on page 26, had the dispute about a claim of land in Cross Plains, and Haney shot the Frenchman through the thigh, the ball entering the folding leaf of a cherry table, and which for years afterwards was shown by Haney to his friends as a curiosity. Haney, however, took care of Pelkie until his final recovery.

Mr. E. Burdick relates that Haney at one time borrowed $50 of him and tendered him his note, which he, Burdick, refused, remarking that it was a matter of honor between Haney and himself, and all he wished was that the money should be returned at a given date. Haney was never known to honor his note, but this matter of verbal promise to pay was the highest form of integrity to him, and on the appointed day Haney passed over the lawful amount with a nervous earnestness that he never was known to experience, at any other time when his note of hand fell due.

Adam Smith, of Sun Prairie, who was at one time a partner of Abel Rasdell, relates an incident which, we believe, has never been recorded before. Rasdell kept a trading store on the east side of King and Webster streets, and on one occasion a young Indian entered his store and attacked him with an open knife. Rasdell was unarmed, but after guarding the blows, was finally able to wrench the knife from the hands of the Indian, and though

wounded across the back of his fingers, pursued him out into the street, where he caught and threw him down, and then struck at with the knife, while he held him down with one hand. The knife each time struck a heavy buckskin belt the Indian wore, and thus failed to injure him. The father of the young man coming up at the time, rushed up to Rasdall and besought him to spare the life of his son and take his, as he was an old man and had few moons to live. The appeal touched the heart of Rasdall, and though naturally rash and vindictive, he allowed the young man to get up and go off with his father without further molestation.

Wm. Welch, Esq., speaking of the good sayings and good things that are left slumbering in obscurity, for want of proper care in the preserving of them, and which would go far to the exclusion of so many trashy books that are palmed off on the public, relates the following in his *Home Diary:* "In 1857, the law firm of Welch & Lamb was established, and with their extensive acquaintance in the county, clients multiplied apace, and among them Mr. John Foreman, late of Deerfield. In 1860, the State Fair was appointed to be held in Madison; and Mr. Welch, making Mr. Foreman a friendly visit at his farm, bargained for a dozen spring chickens for home consumption, and a crock of good butter, which John and his wife were to bring to Madison when they made a visit to the Fair, and to stay over night at Mr. Welch's. John and his wife came according to agreement, with chickens and butter, and passing on through town stopped at the house of Mr. Lamb, who, eyeing the chickens, eloquently persuaded the couple to leave their merchandise with him, as it would be all right, it making no particular difference which of the partners were made happy by the possession of the fowls, and so quietly passed them from John into a convenient smoke house that served as a preservative by smoke or otherwise. John and his wife, after satisfying themselves with sight seeing at the Fair, returned to Welch's for night quarters, and after supper related their adventure with Mr. Lamb; and unwilling to disconcert the sunshine and joy on the honest face of the two good souls, Welch admitted it would be all right. But so foul a deed rankled in the breast of Welch, and he mentally shouted revenge. Peter Parkinson, Jr., Mr. Welch's respected brother-in-law, driving up to the house at the time, Welch opened to him his budget of grief, and both agreed to carry the war out that very night. Proceeding to the house of Lamb, and satisfying themselves that everything was quiet in the house, they stealthily crept up to the smoke house, and carefully removing a temporary door, commenced wringing the necks of the chickens, and had nearly completed their operations when, to their horror and consternation, a large dog rushed out at them, but which proving to be a six months old Newfoundland, they readily made friends with him, and finishing their work of blood, took with them both the dog and chickens. The following morning the girl prepared the chickens for breakfast, and was assisted by Mrs. Foreman, who declared that the chickens "looked for all the world just like those John and her had brought to Deacon Lamb's." When Lamb reached the office in the

morning, Welch observed some perturbation of feeling on his countenance, but supposing his own imagination was working equally strong, said nothing until asked by Lamb if Foreman and wife had stayed with him over night, which being answered in the affirmative, he again asked if they had come up town again the same evening, and being answered in the negative, was asked why he made these inquiries, when he proceeded to relate the night's theft, and how he had traced the foot prints of both a man and a woman in his lot, and had them measured by stick and rule. At this juncture, Welch involuntarily withdrew his protruding foot and sublimely disclaimed against all hen roost thieves, until Lamb, thoroughly satisfied that he had no clue to the robber, quietly charged himself with the chickens, and for fifteen long years remained ignorant of the above facts, although brother Parkinson with some twinge of conscience, tried to make reparation by presenting Lamb with the half of a hog."

MADISON has been long noted for her excellent staff of house and sign painters, and sometimes in the display of the latter their patience and good sense have been strongly imposed on. In one of the wards of our city lying between here and Cottage Grove, one of our good, quiet and honest Germans had started a small grocery store, and desired the aid of an artist of the brush to prepare him a suitable sign for the proper announcement of his merchandise. The terms and price not being satisfactory, our good neighbor bargained for the use of paint and brush, as he had once some knowledge of the art himself, and could do a "leetle dat vay." After a labored effort he produced the following: "*Lager Beer and So — me Groceries.*" Another equally as good might be seen in the First ward of our city, and reads: "*Going out doing whitewashing taken in here.*"

EDUCATION is a great helper if it is not always a great elevator; but which it is, we are not prepared to say, after reading the following, prepared and held by one of our painters for years for the expense incurred in its execution for a practicing physician in a neighboring village, and which was tastefully lettered: "*Dr. Wilber B. Dodge, M. D., Physician and Surgeon.*" In the making of books, says the wise man, there is no end, and so might it be added with regard to professional titles. They are weightier than the pretended owners of them.

WHEN Pinneo, the shingle weaver, was in want of a drink, he was accustomed to go to Squire Seymour, who kept store for the Deans, and run his credit until the shingles he had wove were sold. On one occasion, having reached the utmost limit of his financial standing with the Squire, he endeavored by persuasive argument to have him give him one drink more. The Squire, however, was inexorable, so Pinneo returned to his shingle establishment, where he found Adam Smith, from whom he borrowed an empty pistol, and with a bottle in his pocket started for Deans' store. On entering he held the pistol in one hand and the bottle in the other and demanded that the Squire should fill his bottle. The fierce attitude of the belligerent brought the Squire to terms, and, after filling the bottle, Pinneo coolly showed him the pistol was unloaded.

# VIENNA.

BY HON. A. A. BOYCE.

THE town of Vienna is situated on the north line of Dane county, and is midway between the east and west lines of the county. The town is bounded on the north by the town of Arlington, in Columbia county, on the east by Windsor, on the south by Westport, and on the west by the town of Dane. It occupies the township of land known as town 9 north, range 9 east. This township of land was set off from the northwest corner of Windsor, and organized as a separate town by an act of the second state legislature, in 1849. The name of the town was derived from the town of Vienna in the state of New York, from whence came some of the early settlers. It occupies a part of the high lands that divide the waters of the Wisconsin from those of Rock river. From the northwest part of the town the waters fall into Lodi creek, a small tributary of the Wisconsin, from the east, and south the waters find their way into Lake Mendota through two small creeks, one on the east, the other on the southwest border of the town. The land is sufficiently undulating to afford complete drainage. There are no marshes of any considerable extent. The soil is principally a deep, rich, dark loam of great fertility. In many of the hills and ridges, limestone of good quality for building purposes is found. It is said that every quarter section of land would make a good farm. Beautiful prairies, interspersed with groves, form pleasing landscapes of great beauty.

The principal groves are called Robertson's Grove, in

the north, Norway Grove, in the center, and Hundred Mile Grove, in the northwest part of the town, the grove was so called by the military engineers who placed the stake in the grove that marked the one hundredth mile on the military road from old Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien. This road extended from Fort Crawford, on the Mississippi, by way of Fort Winnebago, at the portage between the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, to Fort Howard at Green Bay, and in early days was the principal thoroughfare from the southwest to the pineries of the north. It passed through the northwest corner of the town.

In the year 1838, William G. Simons (now of Lodi) entered the first land, the southeast quarter of section 21, and plowed the first land. The next year he built the first house, with the intention of keeping a tavern on the projected road from Madison to Fort Winnebago, but the projected road taking another route by the way of Token Creek, he left, and sold the land to Louis Montonda, who and his wife Electa, were the only inhabitants for two years within the present limits of the town. In 1842, Montonda moved away and the town was left without an inhabitant until 1845, when David Robertson and Thomas Lindsay located on section 4, where they now reside. S. Nicholson settled on section 22. The next year (1846), Willard Fisher and Joseph Deming, with their families, settled on section 21, and Ira Simons and Harvey P. Wheaton moved on to section 6; in this year also members of a colony from and near the city of Leicester, England, settled on section 31, being mostly mechanics, unused to farm labor and the hardships of pioneer life, a majority of them left and sought homes elsewhere. Among those who remained and improved their farms were William Plackett, Jonah Poynor, William Crow, and Jabez Weston. In the spring

of 1847, Adam Paton settled on section 4, A. A. Boyce on section 6, Whiting D. Stanley and Aaron Lamb on section 7, and Benjamin Nesmith on section 32. A number of families from Norway settled in the central and eastern part of the town. Among the first that came were Erick and Michael Johnson, with their families, who still reside on their farms. During this and the following years, many more settlers arrived. Robert Mann and Isaac Mann located on section 7. Among the early settlers who still occupy the farms on which they settled, are Samuel Pashley, R. McChesney, Alexander and Thos. Paton, M. O'Dwyer, W. O. and Wm. Fisher, R. B. Kellogg, Ole Hemundson, Henry Nelson, T. E. Farness, Lars Sampson, T. Errickson, John Ollis, J. and W. Howie, Aaron Cooledge, J. Farwell, S. Raymond, H. Cramer, Jas. Taylor, R. J. Poynor, Wm. Plackett, J. C. Hustleby, A. J. Damp, S. M. Lester and A. Rankin.

The first town meeting for the election of town officers was held at the house of Willard Fisher, on the 16th day of April, 1849, and the following officers were chosen: *Supervisors*, A. A. Boyce, chairman, Willard Fisher, and Benjamin Nesmith; *town clerk,* Isaac Mann; *assessor,* Thomas Lindsay; *treasurer,* Jabez Weston; *justices of the peace,* A. A. Boyce, Jonah Poynor, Willard Fisher, and Hubbell Fuller.

The first school house was built at Hundred Mile Grove, on section 7, in 1851. There are five churches in the town, the first church erected was the Norwegian Lutheran Church, in 1854, on section 24; then followed the Methodist Church on section 31; the Seventh Day Adventists and the Catholic Churches both on section 9, and the Episcopal church on section 32.

The inhabitants of this town have been peculiarly exempt from sickness. The high and dry location of the lands gives them a pure and healthful atmosphere.

While the people are of so many different nationalities and religions, yet greater harmony does not prevail in any town. Few crimes have been committed, and pauperism is almost unknown. Schools and churches are liberally supported. Many of the young people avail themselves of the educational advantages afforded by the State University, the Normal and High Schools.

Two railroads come within the limits of the town. The Chicago and Northwestern Railway crosses the southwest part of the town, the Madison and Portage road the northeast. The stations on these roads afford good and convenient markets for the products of the farms — Morrison, DeForest and Windsor on the Madison, and Portage road; Waunakee, Dane and Lodi, on the Northwestern road.

The pioneer settlers underwent many privations. Among those most severely felt was the want of a good and near market. Milwaukee, almost the only cash market for wheat, was nearly one hundred miles distant, over new, and at times, almost impassable roads. Frequently the expenses of marketing a load of wheat at Milwaukee were greater than the money received for the load. W. D. Stanley used to relate his experience in marketing his first load of wheat at Milwaukee; it was in the fall of the year, the roads were bad and muddy, the weather rainy most of the time; it took nearly eight days to accomplish the trip; no extraordinary expenses were incurred, and yet so little did he receive for forty bushels of wheat that when he returned home all he had to show for his load and eight days' work for himself and team, was three yards of sheep's grey cloth and a pound of tea.

The experience of another neighbor — John Overton, of Dane — was even worse than that of neighbor Stanley. He hired a yoke of oxen at twenty-five cents per

day, his own oxen not being sufficient to haul forty bushels of wheat to Milwaukee over the bad roads; he hired a wagon at twenty-five cents per day; he paid only ordinary expenses. After paying for the use of the oxen and wagon, he found that the forty bushels of wheat did not pay expenses, and that he was fifty cents in debt.

I remember marketing a load of wheat in those early days at Madison, selling it to "'Squire" Seymour (then of the firm of Seymour & Varney), for forty cents per bushel, in "store pay." Wheat was the staple farm crop: in fact about the only thing raised on the farm that could be converted into money. The yield of wheat on the new rich lands was enormous; forty bushels to the acre was not an uncommon crop. Now such yields of grain are rarely, if at all obtained — not even from virgin soil. There are several reasons for this: first, insect enemies of the wheat plant, then unknown, have come in and so multiplied as to completely destroy the crop in places, year after year; second, the successive crops of wheat taken from the same lands, without any system of judicious rotation with other crops, have taken from the soil the elements of plant food necessary to the production of large crops of wheat; and lastly, the comparatively few acres of land that were plowed by the early settlers drew from the atmosphere (nature's great storehouse) the plant food that now would be divided among many times the number of plowed acres.

Many of the first settlers entered upon the lands without first purchasing the lands from the government or even pre-empting them, simply claiming them, using all of their means in building fences and other improvements, and farm stock, intending to make from the farm, or borrow, money sufficient to pay the government for the land. The right of the settlers to the lands they claimed was generally recognized and held

sacred by the settlers, who protected each other in their rights, and cases were rare where claims were "jumped" by settlers. Occasionally some land speculator would "enter" (or buy of the government) the lands claimed by settlers, and whenever one of that class appeared, his movements were watched with a good deal of anxiety.

In the summer of 1846 a settler was informed that a stranger on horseback had been in the neighborhood looking land, and that he had obtained the numbers of the lands he claimed, and had left in the direction of Milwaukee that forenoon. The settler had not money enough to buy the land of the government, but he had a friend living on Rowan's creek, eight or nine miles away, who could lend him money sufficient with what he had, to enter his land at the land office at Milwaukee; so he determined to borrow the money and reach the land office before the stranger. He had no horse (I think there was no horse owned in the town at that time); it was nearly noon when he started for his friend's; he was fortunate in finding him at home and in getting the money; when he returned home and commenced his journey on foot to the land office, the afternoon was well advanced. He reached Cottage Grove late in the evening. He dare not enter a house to sleep for fear he should sleep too long, but lay down by the tavern stable door where he knew he would be awakened early in the morning. Before sunrise he was up and on the road; he reached Milwaukee that night. In the morning he entered the land office as soon as it was opened, and found to his great relief that he was in time to enter the land. Before leaving the office a stranger entered to buy lands, and among the numbers were his own lands that he had just paid for.

Some of the old settlers will call to mind an occasion when the settlers of this and the adjoining town of

Dane were called together to right the wrongs of a brother settler whose claim had been "jumped" The case was an aggravated one, and was briefly this: A settler was living on a claim where he had built a house, broken and fenced a field. He was visited by a former acquaintance from an eastern state, who came to buy lands. The settler entertained the man for several days, accompanied him a day or two in looking up lands, and assisted him in getting correct descriptions. With these the man left for the land office and entered the lands claimed by his entertainer, and returned to the neighborhood and demanded possession of the land. The news of the outrage soon spread among the settlers. They met on a cold December day at the house of the injured settler, and caused the "claim jumper" to be brought in. A justice of the peace was conveniently near, to act as the occasion might require — to take the acknowledgment of a deed or hold an inquest. The man was stubborn; he refused to receive the money he paid for the land and sign a deed made ready for his signature. Threats and entreaties were alike unavailing. At last it was determined to try the "water cure." He was taken to a neighboring pond, a hole was cut in the ice, and he was plunged in. In his case the cold water cure was instantaneous and complete; he expressed himself not only willing but anxious to sign that deed. He took the money, signed the deed, and departed, a sadder and wetter, if not a wiser man. Few persons except early settlers fully understand the inconveniences and hardships of pioneer life in those days. Living for years without a reliable market for their products, without railroad or telegraph, schools or churches. The post office, store, physician and mechanic miles away, and perhaps a day's drive to the nearest grist mill. Those early pioneers were persons of robust health, and

inured to toil; they were buoyed up with hope and expectation of gain; their lives were not devoid of happiness; they were kind and hospitable, ever ready to assist one another. Many, even now, recall with pleasure and regret the days of pioneer life in old "territorial times."

---

## YORK.

The township of York lies in the northeast corner of Dane county, 18 miles northeast of Madison, and is known as town 9 north, of range 12 east. The land in this town is oak openings with occasionally marsh or meadow land, there being no prairie within its borders. It is watered in the southwest part by Waterloo creek, which is the only stream in the town. The land is of good quality and produces excellent crops. There are a number of living springs that afford an abundant supply of water in the town.

It is divided into eight school districts and two church organizations. The town raised $18,454.66 for bounties during the rebellion.

York Center is the name of a small village at the junction of sections 15, 16, 22 and 24. It has a store, blacksmith shop and a few buildings.

York is the name of the post office.

The town of York was organized April 1, 1848. B. B. Freeman was chosen chairman; D. E. Emery and Walter Brown, supervisors; Martin Mead, justice of the peace; Otis B. Lapham, town clerk.

# VERONA.

BY DONALD MacDONALD AND J. T. HAWES.

THIS township lies in the southwestern portion of the county, nine miles southwest of Madison, and is known as town six north, of range eight east. The town is well watered by Sugar river, which rises in the town of Cross Plains, and has also two branches rising on section 7 in this town, flowing southeast and passing out on section thirty-four; there is also a tributary, called Badger Mill creek, rising on section thirteen and emptying into Sugar river on section twenty-eight. On the banks of the streams there are excellent marsh and meadow lands. The land is oak opening interspersed with prairie.

The town was organized on February 17, 1847.

The first settlers were two Scotchmen, named James Young and Thomas Stewart, who came to the town in 1837. They were engaged in the butcher business in Galena, and afterward were employed by Edward Campbell, of Cross Plains, who formerly kept the relay house for the stages between Madison and Mineral Point.

Early one Sunday morning, in the summer of 1840, a party of ten or twelve, among whom were George and William Vroman, James Young, Thomas Stewart and Wakefield Brothers, started out in a wagon from Edward Campbell's house (now James Bonner's) to explore the upper valley of the Sugar river. After wending their way down the valley for about three miles they came suddenly upon the north end of an elevated prairie, and following the dividing ridge about a mile, came to ten mounds, nine of which were circular, while one had the

form of a mammoth.* From this place they had a splendid view of the surrounding country, the mounds being quite prominent and about the center of the prairie. After agreeing to call this beautiful spot Nine Mound Prairie, (section 8), they continued their journey in a southeast direction, and came to what is now called the Badger Mill creek, which they crossed. On either side of the creek they found a beautiful flat or level piece of land, containing several hundred acres without stones or obstructions of any kind, and covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, while the soil was of the richest. This tract is divided by Badger Mill creek, with Sugar river coursing the west side, and nearly surrounded by groves of hard wood suitable for building and fencing purposes. "What more," they exclaimed, "could be desired as a building site — here we have it?"

On the left bank of the creek a promontory with an elevation of from thirty to forty feet extending out about one-fourth of a mile, covered with timber, and commanding an extensive view of the flats, was the spot where the two hardy Scots resolved to make their future home.

The party, proceeding toward the southern extremity of the prairie, found a number of prominent mounds which they examined; christened the place "Mound Prairie," and crossing to the west side of Sugar River, made their way back to their starting point.

A week afterwards, the two Scots, James Young and Thos. Stewart, returned to take possession of their home, and after locating on the south side of the creek, on secs. 27 and 28, they made an excavation into the side of the ridge six by eight feet, and then roofed it with poles

* One of these mounds was opened by Dr. Waterbury and others, in 1847, when a portion of a human skeleton was found that must have belonged to a person not less than six feet six inches in height.

and grass. Thus prepared—being both bachelors—they stored away such cooking utensils and household goods as they had brought with them, and returned to bring the remainder of their goods and chattels, with the intention of keeping "batch," in their new and first habitation built by white men in the township of Verona. During their absence, a heavy thunderstorm came on during the night, and on their return the following day from Edward Campbell's, they found the creek had become swollen into a river, whose waters they did not dare to cross. Waiting until it subsided, they passed over without difficulty, but only to find the contents of their new abode washed away by the flood. After some searching they found the most of the missing articles where the water had left them. With even this experience, they concluded to build again, but this time above high water mark. Moving to the top of the promontory, from which they had the commanding view of the flats, on their first visit, they commenced digging in a horizontal position into an Indian mound, making an excavation ten by fourteen feet. During the digging, they came across the skull and bones of a human being, which they supposed must belong to one of the race of the mound builders; but dreading more the dangers of floods than the dry bones of past mortality, they continued their work, and then roofed the excavation with logs, and poles, thatching it with grass from the creek, leaving a suitable place for a chimney at the end of the domicile, and supplying the entrance with a door, the panels of which were of grass, while the frame was made with an axe and augur, as lumber and nails were a luxury they could not then dream of possessing. This hastily constructed home, made out of a tomb, was a comfortable abode against wind and rain. But while supposing themselves to be the peaceful possessors of their home,

it was matter of astonishment to them to find that they were not the only occupants of the knoll. A large and full grown lynx was occupying an adjacent portion of the tomb, and was concealed from them by the underbrush, within a few paces of their door. For a time they concluded not to disturb him, and so passed and repassed him every day, until they discovered that he liked domestic fowl better than the wild, so they determined to make him move his quarters elsewhere. Thomas armed himself with a club, while James brought forth "Nicodemus" and discharged its contents into his lynxship. Wounded, but not disabled, the ferocious brute sprang from his lair and gave them battle. Thomas charged on him with his club, and by a well directed blow "extinguished the varmint," and thus gave them peaceful possession of their home and the riddance of a bad tenant.

By the way, "Nicodemus" was a favorite fowling piece upon which the owner had bestowed the above sobriquet, and was a musket of no ordinary capacity. It had a barrel something less than six feet and a bore that could swallow a Springfield rifle. When fully loaded and discharged the report would shake the ground and reverberate among the hills and woods for miles around. Game that once heard its thunder never cared to come within its range again. In after years, the writer had ample opportunity of testing its good qualities, but it was always a matter of doubt with him whether it was the load or the concussion that brought down the game. One thing he has a convincing recollection of, however, that its recoil often brought him to *terra firma*.

Trusting the reader will pardon our digression, we will now return to where we left our pioneers fairly located in their new home. After breaking some land, planting corn and potatoes, they found their provisions

had given out, and they had eaten their last morsel for breakfast. A supply could not be had nearer than Galena, about ninety miles distant, so Thomas hitched the team to the wagon and started for that place. While the horses stood drinking in the stream it occurred to him that long absence from civilization had not improved his toilet, or personal appearance, and that the old saying of blackened boots and a clean shirt was the twin sister of "cleanliness and next to Godliness," so to appear before the fair maids of Galena in commendable style he pulled the shirt from his back and washed it in the creek, then returned it to its legitimate place on his back and drove on, trusting to an iron constitution and his team to carry him to where he could get something to eat, though there was no road to follow, and still less no bridges to cross, but a wild, uninhabited country to pass through.

In the meantime, James, more accustomed to work than hunt, started as usual to the fields, accompanied by "Nicodemus," and trusting to Providence for his dinner. Noon came, but no game had crossed his path, and as it was useless to return home, there being nothing to eat, he kept on working in hopes of driving hunger away, and so continued in the field until the sun was disappearing in the west and it was time to return. On arriving at the house a flock of black birds flew past and lighting in a large burr oak tree, within a few rods of the door, "Nicodemus" was instantly brought to its proper elevation and immediately the ground shook as by an earthquake, the hills and woods gave back the echo, while the denizens of the field and forest fled in dismay. Of the blackbirds, nine were the mutilated victims, but speedily gathering them up James plucked and prepared them for a supper and breakfast, feeling, however, it was but a scant supply for a robust

man. The following day a prairie hen, hatching in the vicinity, and appearing to be the only living bird that had not been frightened out of reach or existence made its appearance, when "Nicodemus" was once more brought to the horizontal, and the luckless hen fell dead bereft of both life and most of her feathers. Thankful to a bountiful Providence for even this scanty supply, he was thus able to eke out enough until his partner returned from Galena with plenty of provisions.

This coveted spot of earth, where the ancient mound builders laid their noted dead, and heaped the earth upon them for an everlasting monument; where the ferocious lynx made his den and the pioneers their abode, is now occupied by the modern and comfortable residence of Donald Stewart, brother to the pioneer. Thos. went to California many years ago, where he acquired a fortune, but very mysteriously and suddenly dying, while his partner in business equally suddenly disappearing, nothing satisfactory was ever known about his estate. James Young is at present a resident of Madison, but in feeble health, though still delighting to recount all the privations of his early pioneer life.

Samuel Taylor was the next settler. He built the first log house in the town, and which still does good service on the farm now owned by William Ogilvie. Afterwards came Patrick Davidson, and in September, 1841, Wm. Reoch, Peter White, Peter Martin and family. Mrs. Martin was here two years before she saw the face of another woman. Among the next settlers were Matthew Hawes, Andrew Patton, William Collins, and Magnus Leslie, with their families. Settlers now began to come in quick succession.

Badger Mills was built by Wm. A. Wheeler and Geo. Vroman, in 1843–4, and sold to Taylor & Weston. On the completion of the mill a grand ball was given in

honor of the first grist mill in the county, and the music for the occasion was furnished by Pritchard's band. A few years afterwards, the mill became the property of Samuel Taylor.

The first threshing machine brought into the county was imported from Scotland by Patrick Davidson, living on section 33; but being stationary it was used only, for a few years, when it gave place to the portable machines, of American make.

Whisky was first made from malt by John, a younger brother of Thos. Stewart, in 1843–4, on section 28, out of an imported copper still, the size of a tea kettle. It was used for many years in distilling a good quality of Scotch whisky, whose praise, as well as the liberality of the manufacturer, was lauded far and near over the sparsely settled country. The days that brewing was going on, it was surprising to see with what instinct the wounded bucks would head for the still; at least the hunters always claimed they had lost the trail at this spot or very near it, and would give up the chase for the day. Tired and thirsty, these hunters would drop in to see how Scotch whisky was made, when John would refresh them with draughts of the double strong, fresh from the still, which he freely dealt out in a quaigh,* and many a hunter started home fully convinced that the "Scotch" was all it was said to be, and perhaps a little more. The kiln for drying the malt was made after the pattern of a hundred years ago, and was a circular pit dug in the ground, covered with a conical shaped roof and a hole in the center to allow the smoke to pass out. The drying floor was made of poles laid close together

* Pronounced *Kwâ*, a small drinking cup, made either of wood, the horn of an animal, or silver. The horn was used by hunters for convenience against breaking, but on festival occasions in Scotland, during fuedal times, the silver cup was used.

and covered with straw. On this the malt was spread to dry, with a fire underneath. The process needed constant attention night and day.

An incident connected with the drying is related of three young Scotchmen who volunteered to sit up all night and dry the malt. The generous freedom granted to all who came to visit the still did not prevent the young men from smuggling a "stoup" of Scotch to keep up their spirits. Not aware of this fact, John furnished them with a liberal supply, that the weary hours might pass more cheerie. Weary hours, forsooth!

> Three blither hearts that lee-lang night
> Ye wad na find in Christendie,

and along thro' the "wee sma' hours" these "drouthy neebors" would pass around the stoup, until one of the party was often heard to say: "I dinna like the *toddy;* I like my whisky *dry*." The supply giving out, and concluding that the malt was as dry as themselves now were, they resolved to start for home; but to make sure that the work was complete, made up one more fire and then left for the house, half a mile distant. Arriving there they turned round, and looking in the direction from which they had come, beheld a bright glow in the southeast. While they stood wondering at the sight, one of them involuntarily sang —

> "It is the moon, I ken her horn,
> That's blinking in the lift sae hie,
> She shines sae bright to wyle us hame,
> But by my sooth she'll wait a wee."

Morning, however, revealed to them the fact that the mysterious glow in the southeast was the flames of the malt and kiln, that having caught fire, had burned to ashes.

The first public house in town was kept by Cheney Luce,

and called the "Traveler's Home." Joseph Flick was the first blacksmith and postmaster; Dr. Spencer the first physician, who was followed by Dr. Waterbury. R. Dunlap opened the first store, on section 21; and the first school house was built on the west side of what is now the Dane County Poor Farm, and was known as the Badger Prairie school house, and the first teacher Amy Thornton.

The town received its name from Geo. and Wm. Vroman, after their native township in New York. The first post office also retained the name of the town. In 1854, the county purchased of Wm. A. Wheeler, his farm on section 14, for county poor purposes, and built a brick house 40 by 60 feet, with basement, and two stories and a half high, since which other buildings have been added.

The physical character of the town is something well worthy of note. The outline is distinctly marked by a ridge of boulders and gravel, which, during the glacial period on our planet, had been pushed forward by a dense body of ice. This ridge intersects the north line of the township on sec. 5, and extends diagonally across the south line on sec. 36. Nowhere south or west of the foot of this ridge are there any boulders or gravel to be found, except where the water may have forced passages through. This can be seen best on sections 5, 16 and 22. On the first section, where the waters have forced a passage through the ridge, immense boulders have been carried down the water-course a distance of half a mile; on sec. 16 an opposing bluff crowds the water close to the foot of the ridge, forming a deep and narrow gulch, where the lime rock can be seen projecting from the bluff on the right, and boulders and gravel on the left. Here, also, large boulders have been carried along half a mile or more. Again, on sec. 22, at

Badger Mills, we find another gap in the ridge. Here the water has strewn boulders down the creek three-fourths of a mile, the smaller ones being carried farthest down.

Among the other curiosities to be seen are the "sink holes" on secs. 17 and 18, as well as other places in the west part of the township. The holes are pits or depressions in the ground, some of which are twenty-five feet deep and thirty-five feet across the mouth. Although there is no apparent opening at the bottom, all the water that flows into them is drained off as fast as it runs in. These holes have evidently been formed by the action of the water, percolating through into subterranean channels, and washing the loose soil along with it.

Many of the early settlers recollect seeing the "blue rings" on the prairies; but the plow has now obliterated most of them. Two, however, are still to be seen on the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of sec. 17, where the husbandman has not yet intruded. These circles are about forty-two feet in diameter, with an opening at one side of about three feet, reminding one of a circus ring. The belt itself is about two feet wide, and as near a circle as can be. There is nothing to show that there had ever been an elevation or depression of the soil; but it shows a darker color. The grass does not differ from that on either side, except that it starts earlier in spring; grows faster and shows a deep blue color, hence the name given to the ring. Stock of all kind crop this grass close to the ground, while that on either side will remain untouched. We have seen many of those circles, and they all look alike, but can give no explanation. Who can?

Game, in the way of bears, wild turkeys, etc., were

very plenty for a number of years after the first settlers came, but neither of the former are now to be found. The curlew was also a frequenter of this section, but has disappeared for many years.

There are six district and joint district schools; three churches, one Presbyterian, one Baptist, and one Methodist. There is also a large number of Indian mounds scattered throughout the town. Patrick Davidson lived for many years in one of these mounds, on his land on section 33, and it was remarkable for its warmth in winter and general comfort in summer.

There are now but few of the old settlers remaining, but, nevertheless, many of the youths of those times, now grown to maturity can recall the glad glee with which they hailed the social gatherings that came year after year, when Willie Reoch would "skirl his pipes," or "scrape his fiddle," and they could dance the "hieland fling." William is still as nimble in the heel or hand as ever, and bids fair to play either pipe or violin, at many gatherings yet to come. Patrick Davidson is also still among us, and whose reputation as the best pibroch player in the county still remains undisputed.

On section 5, in the northern part of the town, on the farm of D. Richardson, there is a cave that has not yet received the proper attention of either the savans of science or the local interest of the citizens, and it is hoped that at some day near at hand, an effort will be made to open the mouth of this singular natural curiosity.* We cannot better describe this cave than to

*A mystery hangs round the cave, which has perhaps been intensified by the recollection of an adventure that occurred to two of our citizens when in it, and though it might have proved fatal, it could not possibly have occurred had a little more care been taken in providing enough lights to carry with them. The mouth of the cave is under a ledge of rocks that hangs over a small valley of which it is the terminus. Before the rains had washed so much debris as now exists around its entrance, there was a large enough opening

quote from the article by Maj. H. A. Tenney, in Durrie's "Four Lake Country."

"About 11 miles distant, and a little southwest of Madison, near the crest of the dividing ridge which separates the lake region from the valley of Sugar river, there exists the basin of an ancient pond

---

for any person to pass in and out conveniently. Mr. Jas. Waddell and a Mr. Goodrich, started one morning on horseback to examine the cave, providing themselves with candles, entered and proceeded to investigate the interior, previously tying their horses outside. The fascination of desiring to continue their search farther than they had provided lights for, led them so far that their last candle was nearly exhausted ere they thought it prudent to return. Unable to retrace their steps, however, before it gave out entirely, one of them, taking off his shirt, tore it into strips, and lighting them, made some progress in the direction from which they had come. The cotton strips becoming exhausted, they were left in the solitude of the unknown cave, and sitting down, felt themselves worse than lost — buried alive. Meanwhile, one of the animals that had been tied to the trees broke loose, and coming home, created considerable anxiety to the wife and brothers of Mr. Waddell. The two brothers, John and Walter, knowing that James had gone to the cave, immediately supplied themselves with a rope and candle, and proceeded in search of him, dreading that some choke damp had destroyed his life. Arriving at the cave they cautiously entered, and lighting their candle, one stood near the mouth and held the rope, while the other took one end of it, and with the light started further in, calling his brother by name. Repeated shouting brought no answer, until mental anxiety getting the better of both, they dispensed with the rope and proceeded together further in, repeatedly calling as they went. At length a faint response was heard in a distant part of the cave, and as each hurried to the other, the sound grew more distinct, and finally brought the two lost men to their side, overjoyed at their fortunate escape from a living tomb. The four men now endeavored to return, but it seemed evident for some time that it was impossible. The intricate passages on every side of them seemed to baffle every effort to retrace their steps, while their nearly exhausted candle gave them but little hope. Seeking for the outlet, Walter discovered on a number of the pillars supporting the arches, a portion of the rock assuming the shape of a spear > or arrow head, and always pointing one way. Concluding to follow these marks, they finally found them point toward the mouth of the cave, where they soon arrived in safety about twelve o'clock in the evening. With deep gratitude for their fortunate deliverance and second escape, they made all possible haste to relieve the anxiety of those at home, feeling satisfied that the deep and intricate passages of the cave were no longer a myth to them.

It is supposed by some that the marks on the pillars were caused by the action of the water as it rushes through the passages during the heavy rain-falls; but these men were of the impression

or lake covering about four thousand acres, whose waters have long since departed, and whose drainage is directly into the face of a bluff. This inlet, a quarter of a century ago, was penetrated to a depth of nearly two thousand feet, and yet has never been fully explored, or its mysterious depths examined by mortal eye. It is about five hundred feet above the level of the four Lakes, and the openings apparently tend to the west. Sugar river is about one and a half miles distant, but no evidence has ever been discovered to warrant the belief that these waters anywhere enter or make a part of that stream. All indications, indeed, point to the certainty that it is an entrance to that vast subterranean river system known to permeate the lead region at a great depth, and whose unknown outlet may be hundreds of miles away. Early explorers always halted from fatigue or lack of adequate preparation to proceed, and not because the way was not open; but nothing like an end has ever been reached.

"The deposit in which this immense grotto exists, is the cliff or upper magnesian limestone, which at this point is known to be underlaid by a sandstone formation, whose thickness is probably forty or fifty feet. That the channel has been cut down to this more friable material, at some point of its course, is not doubted, and hence it is naturally concluded that, if followed to the line of junction, the dimensions of the cave would swell to collossal proportions. As it exists at present, there are four narrow entrances, badly choked by the *debris* fallen at the mouth, or material carried in by currents. The two most southern openings unite at the distance of some fifty or sixty feet, from whence cavern succeeds cavern, so far as known, for thousands of feet. Once within this rocky chamber, there was formerly no serious obstacles to progress; but the present

---

that they gave evidence of having been cut by human hands, perhaps by Indians, and that at one time the cave was known to them in all its intricate windings by these marks.

The first white man known to have entered the cave, was John MacDonald, jr., who in 1845 went in about eight in the morning and losing his way, was unable to make his escape until far on in the afternoon of the same day. His intention was to go no farther than he could observe the rays of light reflected from the mouth, and which he endeavored to keep steadily watching, by walking in a half-turned position from the mouth to the interior. Finally thinking he had lost the light, he started back, and was only able to extricate himself as above stated. His case would have been a hopeless one, had he been unable to find his way out, as none of his friends knew of his intention; indeed, it was only a thought of the moment with himself.

difficulty of entrance has kept thousands from the spot. It has also had the effect of keeping the walls of the interior openings in a much damper condition than they otherwise would be, by preventing the draft of outer air, which passes steadily through the whole known extent of the cavern. The far inner rooms have all the usual characteristics of the most noted caves in the country. Pendent stalactite has its corresponding stalagmite, at present much discolored by the newly added sediment. The walls are worn into strange and fantastic shapes, and everywhere exhibit the erosive power of rushing water. Long corridors and halls, whose smooth, rocky sides would seem to bid defiance to any power, connect the numerous vestibules and chambers, some of which are from twenty to thirty feet in height, and of great and almost unknown depth.

"That the cave consists of several stories is evident from numerous indications, both exterior and interior. It is proved by the sound of voices when large parties are exploring the numerous ramifications; by variations in level; and more particularly by a whirlpool in seasons of flood, outside the entrance, which proves that the ancient channel has been choked by fallen rocks, and underlies the whole cavern thus far examined. It is still further proved by the clean cut bank of the outside water course, whose bottom is several feet below the present entrance — an impossible achievement if they were the natural inlet. Still further, no pond or water ever remains in front of the cave, in the basin below the existing entrance level, which would be impossible if it did not have a subterranean escape. Once cleared of accumulated *débris*, and instead of one or more, there would probably be found a cave of several stories, the lower of which would amply suffice to drain the region, leaving the others ordinarily dry and intact. Until this is done, the full extent and beauty of this mighty freak of nature will never be fully known or appreciated. Parties living close at hand give wonderful accounts of the phenomena witnessed after great and sudden floods, when the waters, dammed back by the choked entrance, rise ten or fifteen feet against the face of the cavern, compressing the inner air, which escapes through small fissures, to the crest of the hill, with a hiss and a roar somewhat akin to the shriek of a steam whistle. At one spot, indeed, the conversation of parties deep in the cave can be heard directly overhead, showing that if extra ventilation was ever needed it could be easily provided for. Anything like floods, in this elevated basin, however, are extremely rare, and could only occur after long continued rains, or the sudden melting of great and heavy bodies of snow. No rainfall from May to November has

ever been known large enough to send any water into the opening, nor does any enter during the months of winter.

Rev. Matthew Fox, for many years in the early settlement of the town, preached with great zeal and earnestness to attentive audiences, and though ministerial labors were but poorly compensated, says he was gratified to know that the poor had the gospel preached to them. He says:

Mr. George Robinson opened his house at the Badger Mills for religious services, and early on Sunday mornings would arrange seats for the congregation, which two rooms generally accommodated. Not having a pulpit or substitute for one, I took position as convenience dictated. On one occasion I was in one room and the gentleman who undertook to lead the singing in the other, and out of my view. After my reading a hymn, the precentor for the time being, raised his voice to start the tune, but made a failure; he made another effort — it was desperate — but, alas, it also proved a failure. Then the cry of despondency came, "I can't make it go." So it remained for me to remove the difficulty the best way I could.

After some time a log school house was built on the west side of Sugar river, near the residence of Andrew Patton. This served as our place of worship for years.

Mr. Peter Martin was the first elder of the church. In him I found a wise counselor, a pleasant companion, a warm friend and a sincere Christian. He and his excellent wife have long since passed to their heavenly home. I gave place to the Rev. Jas. M'Donald, from Scotland, who labored there with much success. He, also, is deceased. The congregation have now a neat church and manse, quite in contrast with the old school house, where, after riding ten miles on cold winter mornings, I would find the people gathered round the stove. Despairing of getting warm from it, I used to proceed with the services, hoping by speaking to become warm, having first taken the precaution to place my hat against a broken pane of the window at my back. Yet in that wretched cabin I had precious hours, as I told the old, old, story, or administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or engaged in the sweet old psalms that are so rich in precious memories to the children of the covenanters, that lead one back to the days of Cargill and Cameron, and to the triumphs of truth and freedom in that noble land where God's testimony has never wanted a confessor since their witness for Jesus.

ADDITIONS BY J. T. HAWES.

My father and mother and three children moved into the town of Verona on the 7th day of March, 1843. It was a very cold day, with deep snow, which lay on the ground until April, when men went to the town meeting in sleighs. It was a remarkably long and hard winter, and many cattle starved to death. I well remember instances of men coming fifteen miles to get a load of straw, when we would give them the load and keep them over night. We had moved on to Mr. Samuel Taylor's farm, so had plenty of feed. At this time there was only one other family in the town, Peter Martin's, one mile from us. The next nearest was Joseph Vroman, five miles east, Ed. Campbell seven miles north, and McFadden, seven miles south. We living on the road from Janesville to Mineral Point, and as it was the only house for a long distance each way, having a good barn, something very scarce in those days, it was a regular stopping place for all travelers. Among the notables who used to frequent our house was Judge Irvin, Hons. Moses M. and Marshal M. Strong, Ebenezer Brigham, of Blue Mounds, George Delaplaine, etc. J. G. Knapp and E. M. Williamson, of Madison, used to make it their home while acting as surveyors in that part of the county. Judge Irvin was always accompanied by his famous horse Pedro, and dog York. My father one winter boarded old Pedro for the judge. If my memory serves me right, the first child born in the town was Ebenezer Collins. He was born in the evening. My mother was present, and early the next morning she was called to attend the birth of Olive Wheeler, a daughter of William A. Wheeler, who lived at the Badger Mills.

The first religious services in the town were held at our

house, by the Rev. Salmon Stebbins. He was followed soon after by a Methodist missionary by the name of Bennett, who afterwards took up the less honorable calling of office seeking. About this time we had occasional preaching by the Rev. Matthew Fox, of Fitchburg, a Presbyterian minister; also by his father, who was a Methodist preacher. He was known all over the country as Father Fox, or, as he sometimes styled himself in his jocular way, "Ould Daddy Fox."

In the summer of 1845 the settlers built a log school house on the northwest quarter of section 22, but when they had got the body up, they decided it was not located in the proper place, and so sold it to my father, who took it down and moved it on his farm, on section 13, which he was just beginning to open. The next year they erected a log school house on the west edge of what is now known as the Dane county poor farm. The first school was taught by Amy Thornton, in the winter of 1846–7, and I was one of her scholars. It was the custom in those days for the teacher to board around, and the big boys to take turns in building the fires. My turn came every Monday morning, and I remember getting a frozen ear on one of those occasions. The first summer school was taught by Miss Noyes, and the second winter term by Dr. Waterbury. He being the only physician in that part of the country, was frequently called away on professional duties, and at such times he placed the school in charge of some one of the big boys, quite a number of whom were men grown. One of the number, an Englishman by the name of Baker, who was sometimes called upon to preside, caused a good deal of merriment one day by telling some one in a class of spelling, who had left out the letter *n* in a word, that "there was a *hen* in there somewheres."

In 1843 my father was elected the first justice of the

peace in the town, and my brother, Harvey L. Hawes, the first constable. The same year my father was elected a supervisor of the town. Among his duties were the laying out and repairing of roads. This office he held for many years. In 1846 we moved on our own farm, and entertained many travelers in our little log house. A sign over our door with the word BEER in large letters, caused considerable attraction, as it was, for many miles around, the only thing of the kind outside of Madison. As the town has filled up fast with settlers, it will be difficult to follow its history further.

---

## VERMONT.

The town of Vermont lies in the western part of the county between the towns of Black Earth and Blue Mounds, and known as town 7 north, of range 6 east.

The town is well watered by Black Earth and Blue Mounds creeks, with their tributaries. The surface is very uneven, and along all the streams are bluffs or ridges; indeed, the face of the country is rough and hilly, yet there is very much desirable land suitable for all agricultural purposes. The land is covered with oak openings and no prairie. There are no villages in the town.

The town of Vermont was named by one of the settlers after his native state. The first settler was a German, named Joshua Harmony, who located here in 1846. I. C. Steele, who located on section 7, and S. Batty, on section 6, were among the early settlers. The town was organized in 1855. The first officers were Whalen Hasbrook, Isaac C. Steele and Jno. Caldwell; Aaron Dana, clerk. The first sermon was preached in 1849, by H. Mainard, of the Methodist church. The first school district was organized in 1850; A. Campbell first teacher.

# MIDDLETON.

BY A. B. PARMENTER, ESQ.

THIS township is situated near the center of Dane county, adjoining the township of Madison on the west, and is known in the government survey as township 7 north, of range 8 east. It is watered in the northeast part by Pheasant Branch creek, which flows easterly through the village of the same name into Lake Mendota. It is also watered in the northwest portion by Black Earth creek, where on sections eight and nine there is a wide expansion known as Mud Lake, and adjoining which are large and now very valuable marsh land, that affords excellent yields of hay. This creek rises in what was formerly known as the big marsh, which contains a rich and extensive deposit of peat. These peat beds have been tested and found to be of a pure vegetable deposit, and at no distant day, will be utilized as fuel.

In the year 1838, the Hon. Thomas T. Whittlesey, from Connecticut, became the purchaser from the government of a large tract of land at the head of Lake Mendota, where he laid out the village of Pheasant Branch, and erected a steam saw mill in the year 1849, which at that early day furnished large quantities of hard lumber, which was used for building purposes in Madison as well as at the Branch and surrounding country, until the completion of the railroad, when a more desirable article could be obtained.

The surface of the township is diversified by hills and valleys, prairie and oak openings; a little of it broken with limestone ridges. The land altogether is rich and productive, and is under excellent cultivation.

There are three villages in this town — East Middle-

ton, Pheasant Branch and Middleton Station. The C., M. & St. P. R. R. runs through the latter village, entering on section 13, in the east, and passing out on section 7, in a western direction. East Middleton has one store and a post office, and two organized churches. The cemetery is also in this village. Pheasant Branch at one time bid fair to exceed Middleton Station, if the railroad had only diverted its course and passed through the former instead of the latter. A good grist mill was built in Pheasant Branch by Wheeler & Gault in the years 1853–4, and was in successful operation for many years. Before railroad communication, this was the central mart for a large circle of trade. The village still continues to be a place of considerable trade.

The town has a population of over 1,700, and the village of Middleton Station about 300. There are four post-offices in the town, viz.: Pheasant Branch, East Middleton, West Middleton and Middleton Station. The latter village has two church edifices, which are occupied by five religious denominations; two organized temperance societies, the Good Templars and Mendotas; six secret societies, six saloons, two doctors, but no lawyer.

As an evidence of the amount of business done in Middleton, it is recorded that for two successive months there was shipped every day from the station a full train of freight cars loaded with grain, while there were taken in at the several warehouses, and shipped in one day, fifty-two car loads. The same fall there were shipped to Milwaukee 10,070 bushels of wheat, which, from the statistics of that year, showed that it was more than Madison, or any other station in the state, or even in five states, except Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien.

The town received its name from Harry Barnes, after a place in Vermont. It was organized in 1847, and at its meeting in April, 1848, elected the following officers:

Thomas Whittlesey, chairman, Orson Cook, Linus M. Palmer, *supervisors;* F. J. Starr, *town clerk;* Andrew Starr, *assessor;* John B. Colton, *collector;* La Fayette Cleveland, George Taylor, *constables;* Hawley Cook, Andrew Starr, John B. Colton, *school commissioners;* Benj. Cleveland, Geo. Taylor, Enoch Noyes, *road commissioners;* Benj. Cleveland, Sen., *treasurer;* Benj. Cleveland, Jr., Orson Cook, Linus M. Palmer, *justices of the peace;* Orson Cook, *sealer of weights and measures;* Thomas T. Whittlesey, James D. Sanford, Linus M. Palmer, *fence viewers.* They polled nearly twenty votes.

The following firms are engaged in the purchase of cattle and hogs, and have convenient yards and buildings erected for successfully carrying on their business: Messrs. Dufrenne, Lyle & Richardson; Messrs. Richard Green & Daniel Vernon; Mr. Fritz Elver.

Mr. Richard Green has a large elevator, run by steam, and does an extensive business in the buying of grain. Dufrenne & Lyle conduct a general merchandise store, with a large and increasing trade. Drs. A. A. Rowley and S. C. Coolridge have well selected stocks of drugs.

The Washington Hotel is kept by Daniel Maul; American House, by Gerhard Aussem; Mendota House, by Wm. Hoffman; blacksmith and wagon shops, by John Prien, Herman Sass, H. Gerds, and G. H. Wolf; furniture shop, by Geo. Schneider; undertaker, L. Goodman. There is also a large lumber business carried on by Green & Kingsley, and a planing mill by A. B. Kingsley. House builders, H. P. Rider, Thomas Fleming and John Sander; masons, E. Page, John Eventhal and John Eggars; boot and shoe manfacturers, C. Lammert, F. Plath; gardener and fruit grower, Henry Schuster; bee and honey dealer, John Elver. This business is becoming quite general throughout the town.

## MAZOMANIE.

BY HENRY HOWARTH AND HENRY Z. MOULTON.

THIS township, located in the northwest corner of the county, was formerly a part of the town of Black Earth, and comprises the north half of township 8 north, of range 6 east, and fractional part of town 9, range 6, lying south and east of the Wisconsin river. The northern portion of this town bordering on the river, was at one time low and marshy; but now, extensive tracts have been drained and brought under cultivation, and in time, will no doubt become very valuable and important lands. Other portions consist of prairie and oak openings, with a rich and productive soil, watered by the Black Earth creek and its tributaries, and is under excellent cultivation, while portions in the eastern and southern parts of the town are bluffy and much less valuable.

This place may be said to be entitled to the distinction of having been "discovered," as the early explorers passed down the Wisconsin over two hundred years since, and *viewed* the lands of which the town is composed, with its extensive marshes bordering upon the river, and its forests and bluffs in the background; the first authentic account of which is that of Father James Marquette, a Jesuit missionary, who, in company with Joliet and five other Frenchmen, passed down the river in June, 1673, on their celebrated voyage of discovery to the Mississippi. At this time, Wisconsin, then unknown as a separate political division, was under the government of France, and so remained until 1759, when it passed into the hands of the British. During the war

of the Revolution (in 1780), a force of Canadians and Indians passed down the river to secure a quantity of furs, deposited by Indian traders at Prairie du Chien, from falling into the hands of the Americans. In the "war of 1812," another force of about five hundred and fifty men, under the command of Col. Wm. McKay, of the British army, consisting of Regulars, Canadians and Indians, passed down the river for the purpose of reducing the fort at Prairie du Chien, and after a desperate resistance on the part of the American troops stationed there, the fort was compelled to surrender. This was in 1814.

In the Black Hawk war, Mazomanie was the theater of one of the most decisive battles of the campaign, known as the "Battle of Wisconsin Heights." The Indians having left the Four Lakes, retreated towards the Wisconsin, and the troops under Gen. Henry and Cols. Dodge and Ewing, numbering about six hundred men, having struck their trail, pursued them, until at five o'clock P. M. on the 21st day of July, 1832, they overtook them in a ravine, about three miles south of the present site of Sauk city. The battle was commenced by the Indians trying to gain possession of the bluffs or heights (located on section 24 in this township) for a better position, but were defeated in their designs, and driven with great loss into the marshes and low grounds, and during the following night they crossed the river. The troops remained during the following day scouring the country for the enemy, and preparing litters for the wounded, camping at night on the farm now owned by J. V. Cairns, on section 15. The next morning they returned to the fort at Blue Mounds.

In the year 1843, the first settlement was made in this township, and large quantities of government lands were entered by the "British Temperance Emigration

Society." Charles Wilson, the agent of this society, accompanied by Joshua Rhodes and Alfred Senier, were the first settlers. They arrived at this place on Christmas day, in 1843, and for shelter and protection against the inclemencies of this season of the year, took possession of an old, deserted Indian wigwam. They were soon after joined by John Holmes and James Ray. They at once commenced the erection of log houses for the accommodation of emigrants that were expected the following season, under the supervision of Mr. Wilson, upon whom devolved the duty of purchasing and locating the lands of the society, dividing them into farms of the proper size, and making such improvements as its rules required.

In the spring of 1844, they commenced breaking up the soil and putting in crops; five acres to each farm of eighty acres was to be prepared in this manner, and a log house erected thereon 14 by 20 feet, and one and a half stories in height.

In the latter part of June of the same year, the first of the expected emigrants arrived, among whom were George Robbins, John and Wm. Wrigglesworth, Francis Wilson, Robert North, John Royston, Wm. Thompson, Christopher Bennett, John Kerr, Charles Reeve, Robert Leach, John Linley and Robert Liman, with their families. Wm. Summerville was also among the number, and was the first to sicken and die, and the first to be buried in the cemetery, on the grounds now occupied for that purpose.

It may not be uninteresting to give a short account of the society, under whose auspices these first settlements were made. The "British Temperance Emigration Society" was organized in Liverpool, in 1842, with branches in many of the important cities and towns in England. The officers of which were Lawrence Hey-

worth, Robert Gorst, Charles Wilson, Charles Reeve and George Cutler. Each member paid one shilling per week per share, and a share costing £25, when full paid, entitled the holder to a farm of eighty acres, to be selected by the agent of the society. When a sufficient amount of funds would accumulate, they were sent to the agent here for the purchase of lands from the government; an election would then be had for the purpose of selecting members to emigrate and occupy the farms. Those that were thus selected would immediately prepare for emigration. But should any member desire, he could sell his right to another member, taking his chances at the next election. Each member, upon his arrival, would be conducted to the farm selected for him and which would be conveyed to him in legal form upon the full payment of his share. The lands of the society extended from Mill Creek, in Iowa county, through Mazomanie, Berry, Springfield and Westport, and about seventy families settled in the vicinity under its auspices. After a year or two, however, there began to be complaints, and a great deal of discontent was manifested among its members; so much so, that soon after, the society was entirely broken up.

The first marriage that occurred among the settlers was that of Robert Leach to Miss Emma Reeve, daughter of Charles Reeve, Esq. They were married on the 25th day of September, 1844, by Wm. Welch, Esq., then a magistrate residing in Madison. Melville Wrigglesworth was the first male child born in the settlement; this event occurring in the fall of 1844. He was the son of John and Elizabeth Wrigglesworth, and lived to reach manhood, but his health, always feeble, gave out, and he died some years since. The first physician of the settlement was W. B. Bishop, who came from Liverpool in 1846, where he had practiced medicine for forty

years. He was not strictly a resident of the township, but lived a few rods across the line in Iowa county. Charles Wilson, who came in 1844, was the first lawyer, and William Powell, a few years after, commenced the practice of law. His sign may now be seen on the little office adjoining his residence on Hudson street, although his health will not permit of active work in his profession.

The first school house, a log building, was built in 1849, on the "school section;" these lands were soon after sold, but the owner would not sell any portion for the school house to remain upon, nor would he allow it to be removed; but on one pleasant, moonlight night, it took a "change of venue," and stood next morning on lands owned by Henry Howarth, on section 15. The first public school was taught here by Mrs. Mary Williams, in the same year. This school house was also used for many years as a place of worship. Services were usually conducted by lay brethren of the Primitive Methodist church, residing in the town. Every fourth Sabbath they were conducted by circuit preachers from Mineral Point who, although having to travel winter and summer, over rough roads and through all kinds of weather, a distance of forty-five miles, were ever faithful and punctual in the discharge of their laborious duties. George Cutler, then a local preacher, also conducted services here, and in 1850, organized a small independent society, called the United Methodists, which organization was maintained for about ten years. Upon a division of the town into school districts, this school house became the property of "District No. 2," now comprising the entire village and a large portion of the town, the first officers of which were Henry Howarth, John Kerr and T. S. North. Further reference will be made to this district in treating of the growth and business statistics of the village.

"School District No. 3" is located in the eastern portion of the town; has a fine frame school house sufficiently large to accommodate the number of pupils in attendance. The present officers are Thos. H. Ward, Walter A. Johnson and Lewis Blynn.

There are at the present time three joint school districts, in addition to the districts mentioned, and the entire amount now expended for educational purposes, is about $3,500.

In concluding this sketch of the early pioneers of the settlement, it will not be out of place to notice some of the privations and hardships necessarily endured in their efforts to make for themselves homes in the distant wilderness. As will be inferred from the manner in which they secured their homesteads, being by weekly installments of about twenty-five cents, they were generally men of limited means, understood but little of agriculture — having principally been mechanics, tradesmen and professional men in their native land — and in opening up and improving their farms the strictest economy was required to procure the necessaries of life. When short of provisions it was the usual custom to borrow from each other until such times as the larder could again be replenished. In some instances resort was had to the coffee mill to grind "flour" enough for bread. One such mill, owned by Dr. Wallace, of Iowa county, and brought by him from "the old country," was kept running for days together for this purpose. In one instance a settler by the name of Joseph Rogerson "backed" fifty pounds of flour from "Badger State mills" on Sugar river. Francis Wilson, during the summer of 1844, accompanied by another settler, went to the old "Hickox mill" in Iowa county for flour, a distance of eighteen miles. They took two yoke of oxen, and, after an absence of four days, returned with

only one hundred pounds; this amount, when divided among the entire settlers, furnished a very small allowance for each family. Only by waiting for the toll from grists brought to the mill during their stay were they enabled to procure even this small amount. For a long time this was the nearest flour mill, and settlers were obliged to make two, and sometimes three, trips before getting their grists. At one time, while this mill was being repaired, Mr. Wrigglesworth and Reuben Royston started in search of some other mill, and were gone over a week before they could find one to grind their wheat.

The manner of threshing and cleaning wheat in those days was somewhat primitive; they would clear off a large space of ground, put on about four yoke of oxen and tramp it out; the cleaning was performed by throwing the grain in the air and allowing the wind to blow out the chaff.

In 1848, there began to be a surplus of wheat, a portion of which was traded off for groceries and other necessaries. About this time they commenced hauling to Milwaukee. The manner of making trips to this city was, for three or four farmers to start together, each having not less than two pair of oxen — horses then being almost unknown in the settlement — they would take their supplies from home and, camping out nights, would cook their provisions by the heat of their camp fires. Thirty bushels was considered a fair load, for which they obtained from forty to fifty cents per bushel. On their return they would sometimes load up with salt or merchandise for Madison and other places, as they could find the opportunity. The round trip was usually made in about two weeks. Many times, from delays caused by bad weather and roads, or some accident to team or wagon, their expenses would use up nearly the entire proceeds of their wheat.

The settlers procured what few necessaries they required or could afford, from Sauk City — a town of "one stores;" from Dover, in Iowa county; from Pokerville (West Blue Mounds), twelve miles distant, or from Madison, a distance of twenty-three miles. When any one went to the latter place, he would procure such necessaries as were required by his neighbors, and would also get the entire mail for the settlement.

The times were very hard for several years after the first settlements, and very little money was to be had. Fifty cents per day was considered a good price for a day's work; usually paid for in flour, meat or other provisions. The usual price paid for harvest help was one bushel of wheat per day.

The early settlers had but little dealings with the Indians, although for many years they were passing up and down the Wisconsin for the purpose of hunting and trapping, and occasionally would camp in the near vicinity. They were always friendly and peaceably disposed. In 1851, a procession of from six to seven hundred of the following tribes, Chippewas, Pottawattamies, Winnebagoes, Stockbridges and Hurons, passed along, marshaled by the United States authorities, with a band of music and several banners of the stars and stripes floating to the breeze. They were being conducted to their several reservations west of the Mississippi, but before their arrival at their respective destinations, it was found that at least one-half of their numbers were missing, they having dropped off in the night time, preferring their Wisconsin homes to the comparatively unknown territory to which they were being removed.

The town was first called Gorstville; this was subsequently changed to Pleasant Valley, then to Farmersville, and then to Black Earth. The southern portion, being the south half of town eight, still retains this

name, but the northern portion was set off in 1858, under the name of Mazomanie, a name given to it by the first proprietors of the village, signifying, in the Indian language, "The iron that walks," or "Walking iron," and should be written with one capital, not as a compound word, as is sometimes done.

The first officers for the new town of Mazomanie were: *Supervisors* — John Greening, chairman, James Craney, Philip Wagner; *town clerk* — Wm. L. Freeman; *treasurer* — S. E. Waterhouse; *assessor* — James Hayes; *town superintendent*—Dr. E. D. Bishop; *justices*—John Greening, Barney Campbell, John Huntington, Thomas S. North; *constables* — Joseph Bennett, Wm. Brink.

The present officers are: *Supervisors* — Luther Clark, chairman, Joseph Bennett, H. B. Catlin; *town clerk*— H. Z. Moulton; *treasurer* — B. R. Cowdery; *assessor* — Ed. Pratt; *justices* — George Cutler, S. Moulton, H. Z. Moulton; *constable* — John Wilcox.

The population of the township at the present time is about eighteen hundred. The value of real and personal property of the town and village for the year 1877, as appears from the assessment roll of the town, is $457,000.

Village.— While the Milwaukee and Mississippi railroad was in process of construction through our state, and the line was being surveyed through this town, the directors of the road noticed that a fine location presented itself for a village, north and west of the bluff on section 16. They observed that by maintaining a proper grade in building their road, a fine water power could be developed by making the grade serve the purpose of confining the waters of Black Earth Creek upon one side for a distance of about three-fourths of a mile, and determined to take advantage of the circumstances thus presented, to lay the foundation of a thriving village.

Accordingly, after purchasing a portion of the northwest quarter of said section 16, Messrs. E. H. Brodhead, Eliphalet Cramer, Anson Eldred and Moses Scott, as proprietors, joined with Abram Ogden, a previous owner, laid out what is known as the original plat of the village. This was in the early part of the year 1855. During the same year, John Hudson and William Robinson platted a portion of section 9, under the respective titles of Hudson's, Robinson's and University additions, and, subsequently, Henry Walker and Alfred Senier platted portions of sections 8 and 16, under the respective names of Walker's and Senier's additions. The proprietors of Prairie addition were A. W. Curtis, John Catlin and Edward Barber.

During this year the first buildings were erected, and before the close of the season, quite a village presented itself to the gaze of those old settlers who had toiled and endured so much, and with a near prospect of a railroad upon which they could send away their surplus produce, and through its influence, could once more enjoy the benefits of social intercourse with the outside world, began to feel that they were indeed "about to receive that for which they had so long wrought."

The first arrivals were D. W. Bronson and family, David and W. H. Whitney. Mr. Bronson and the Whitneys immediately commenced work on the first store building erected in the village, the entire party living in the meantime in a shanty situated in the rear of the site upon which the "Carlisle House" now stands.

The first store was opened by S. Holbrook and John Martin, followed soon after by that of S. E. Waterhouse and D. W. Bronson. George Butler built and opened the first hotel under the name of the "American House." This was the first frame building erected in

the village. It was rebuilt and improved in 1869, and the name changed to the "Carlisle House."

Soon after, the "Mazomanie Hotel," now known as the "Freeman House," was built by H. A. Cowdery. The first blacksmith shop was established by John and Joseph Wilson.

Among those that came here in 1855, not already mentioned, were Saulsbury Bros., Mr. Parsons, John Robinson, C. D. Haven, G. T. Whitney, Allen and Angus Macdonald, W. U. Hover, L. D. Brooks, A. S. Sanborn, William Allen, and S. H. Vedder.

G. T. Whitney was the first postmaster, but the business of the postoffice was transacted by Messrs. Bronson and Waterhouse. He was appointed under the administration of Franklin Pierce, and was succeeded by William L. Freeman. D. W. Bronson, the present postmaster, was appointed in 1861, and has held the office ever since.

In June, 1856, the railroad first reached this village, and gave at once a fresh impetus to its growth and prosperity. The first passenger cars arrived, and the first time-table was established on the 7th of that month, and on the 10th there was a rousing "Railroad Celebration" in honor of the event, said to be among the greatest gatherings ever had in Mazomanie. People were here from the surrounding country for a great distance, and it was no doubt a day of general rejoicing.

The depot, a very fine structure, was built the preceding year. This building, however, was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1857. A large and commodious eating house was built adjoining the depot, and for several years, trains stopped for refreshments at Mazomanie in place of Madison. In 1862, the building was taken down and removed, thus becoming one of the institutions of the past.

John B. Stickney was the first depot agent, and is now the oldest acting station agent in the state of Wisconsin. He came on the advent of the cars, and has ever since retained the position, which fact is sufficient evidence that he has the confidence, not only of the managers of the road, but of the community of which he has so long been a prominent and active member.

Mr. Hutchins was the first wheat-buyer, but the first grain warehouse was erected by L. A. Lincoln in 1856.

Manufacturing Interests. — In 1857, Lynch & Walker, of Milwaukee, became the owners of the water power before referred to, and erected thereon a large and commodious flouring mill. A few years after this the mill was purchased by William Thompson, who became a permanent resident of the place, and for many years transacted a large and profitable milling business, giving employment to a great number of operatives. Mr. T. spent large sums of money in improvements on the mill. He was an active business man and a good citizen; generous, open hearted, and took great interest in all public improvements. The mill is now operated by Messrs. E. Sanderson & Co., of Milwaukee — under the charge of J. T. Vought — who have made extensive alterations and improvements, involving an outlay of about $15,000. Considering the strength and permanency of its water power, its close proximity to the railroad, its capacity for work and thorough state of repair, and its ready access to the markets and to the large grain growing districts of Iowa and Minnesota, it must be placed among the very best flouring mills of the state.

The frame flouring mill, now standing on section 8, was moved to its present location in 1864, by John Cropper and Ch. L. Jacobi, and was operated by Mr. Cropper until 1876, when he sold his interest to Robert Patterson. This is a much smaller mill, and is intended prin-

cipally for custom work, although it has the requisite machinery for manufacturing what is termed "patent" flour.

The next important business enterprise established in the place was the manufacture of fanning mills, and out of its introduction important branches of industry have been built up, in giving employment to a great number of mechanics, and support to many families. In 1860, John Warren, Nathaniel and Stillman Moulton, built a large three story brick and stone building for this purpose, with steam power and machinery for planing, matching, sawing, etc. A large business was established, which steadily increased from year to year; but on the 2d day of May, 1865, a great calamity befel them, in the loss by fire of their building and entire stock, prepared during the preceding winter ready for "setting up" into mills. N. Moulton having withdrawn in 1863, the loss fell upon the other members of the firm, and was very severe, there being no insurance. A circumstance worthy of note in this connection is the fact that the machine shop of N. T. Davies, situated on the exact location, was destroyed by fire on the 10thday of May, 1877, exactly twelve years after.

George and N. T. Davies, the successors of J. Warren & Co., rebuilt the premises and made extensive additions and improvements, both in buildings and machinery, including the establishment of a foundry and machine shop. N. T. Davies, now the sole proprietor, is doing a large business in the manufacture of fanning mills, wagons, milk safes and other farm machinery, having with commendable pluck and perseverance rebuilt the portion recently destroyed by fire.

Pritchard and Davies are also extensive manufacturers of mills and safes.

Fanning mills are also manufactured by D. N. Smith and George Davies.

John Parman and Charles J. Trager are each the owner and proprietor of a large establishment for the manufacture of wagons and carriages; and for strength, durability, style and finish, their work will compare favorably, if not excel, that of any other establishments of their kind in the country. As evidence of this fact, they are receiving orders not only from the city of Milwaukee, but from places in the northwest and southwest portions of our state, as well as from Iowa and Minnesota.

The Mazomanie cheese factory, owned and operated by Messrs. Humphrey & Sherwin, ranks among the important business enterprises of the town. This factory was built early in 1875, and under the efficient management of Mr. Daniel Humphrey, with Theo. J. Elmer as cheese maker, has been very successful, thus proving the wisdom of the merchants and business men who contributed so liberally to its establishment.

John Darlington is the manufacturer and patentee of a washing machine called the "Darlington Washer," which is said to be an excellent machine.

CHURCHES. — The *First Congregational Society* was organized at the log school house before mentioned, in 1853, by Rev. David M. Jones, of Arena. Through his labors a church was erected in 1855, of which he was the first pastor. Subsequently this church building became the property of the Evangelical Association, by whom it was used until 1874, when it became private property. In 1871 the society built a very fine frame church on Hudson street, under the labors of the Rev. M. M. Martin, who is the present pastor.

The *First Baptist Society* of Mazomanie and Black Earth was organized April 11, 1857, with Rev. Moses Rowley its first pastor. For many years they occupied the seminary. In 1865, the society was reorganized as

the First Baptist Society of Mazomanie. In 1866, under the labors of Rev. Moses Pickett, they built a large frame church on Hudson street, and services are now conducted therein by Rev. Joseph Bowman, of Lodi.

In 1847, the *Primitive Methodist Society* was organized by Rev. George Stevens, a local preacher, and services held in private dwelling-houses. In 1850, the society was reorganized by Rev. James Alderson, and attached to the Mineral Point circuit, and in 1857, they built a small frame church. Although this society is small, they have never failed in keeping up regular services. The present year (1877) they have erected a fine parsonage near the church. The present pastor is Rev. John Ralph.

The *Methodist Episcopal Society* was organized November 7, 1856, with a membership of eighteen. Rev. Robert Rowbotham was the first regular pastor. The church now owned by this society — the largest and most commodious church building in the village — was erected under the labors of the Rev. J. D. Searles. The corner-stone was laid by Gen. Fallows, with due formality, in June, 1865, and in September, 1867, it was dedicated. Bishop Simpson preached the dedicatory sermon; Dr. Raymond, of Evanston College, assisted in the services. The present pastor is Rev. E. T. Briggs.

*St. Luke's Mission* (Episcopal) was organized January 8, 1868, and Rev. J. B. Pradt called as missionary. For about two years, services were held in the Town Hall. In December, 1869, they held their first service in St. Luke's Church, a fine brick edifice erected principally through the liberality of William Thompson and Richard Black. The present missionary in charge is Rev. Henry M. Green.

The first regular preacher of the *Evangelical Associa-*

*tion*, so far as can be ascertained, was Rev. Henry Ragartz, who preached here in 1853.

Services were usually held at the residence of different members, until 1864, when they purchased the church building formerly owned by the Congregational Society. This they occupied until 1874, when they found, from the growth of the society, that they needed more room. They built a very pretty and substanial stone church on Hudson Street, which was dedicated on the 29th of October of the same year, by Bishop Jacob Escher. Rev. Peter Held is the present pastor.

*Catholic.*—In 1856, this church erected a frame edifice of which Father Stroker was the first regular priest. In the year 1863, finding their church building too small for the congregation, a new building was erected under the labors of Father McGinty. They now have a fine frame edifice, with a dwelling near for the residence of the priest. Father Mazeaud is the present priest.

Secret Societies. — A dispensation was granted December 5, 1857, for the organization of a Masonic lodge, and on the 9th day of June of the following year, a charter was granted to *Crescent Lodge*, No. 97, A. F. & A. M.; with Alden S. Sanborn, its first master, and John B. Stickney, its first secretary. The membership of this lodge has increased gradually until it now numbers sixty-eight members. Illustrative of changes constantly going on in society is the fact that upwards of one hundred and fifty names have been enrolled as members of this Lodge since its organization.

The most serious drawback that this society has encountered was, in the loss of their lodge-room and entire furniture and records, destroyed by fire, May 2, 1865. They had bought and paid for the third story of the building erected by J. Warren & Co. This gave them a large and commodious hall, and was well fur-

nished. The last payment on the hall was made but a few weeks previous to the fire. They now hold their meetings in the third story of Turck's block. B. R. Cowdery is the present master, and H. Z. Moulton, secretary.

*Good Templars.* — Mazomanie Lodge, No. 65, I. O. G. T. (afterwards changed to No. 14), was instituted January 15, 1858, with William Robinson, W. C. T., and John Howarth, W. R. S. This lodge has met with varying success since its organization. Like all other institutions having for their object the advancement of moral and social reform, it has its seasons of depression as well as ot prosperity; but there is little question that this order, aside from its direct effect upon individuals, has exerted a great influence in building up a healthy temperance sentiment in the community. The membership of this lodge is about one hundred and thirty. Samuel Murrish is its present W. C. T., and T. F. Stair its present W. R. S. They have a hall in Turck's block, and meet on Friday evening of each week.

*Mendotas.* — Montezuma Council, No. 8, I. O. M., was organized February 22, 1876. This is a social order, having temperance as one of its prominent objects. The membership is seventy-eight. The present officers are L. C. Oulmann, Sachem, and W. Y. Ridell, Writer They meet in Good Templar's hall every Monday evening.

The *Patrons of Husbandry*, No. 318, was organized January 10, 1874, and meet on Saturday evenings in "Butz" hall. Their membership is forty-six. Present officers are Henry Powell, Master, and O. B. Haseltine, Secretary.

Public Schools. — Mazomanie has for many years been justly celebrated for the efficiency of her public school, which has been the principal means of attracting many families to our place for the educational ad-

vantages it offered. This is mainly attributable to the liberality of its citizens in providing suitable buildings, and in the employment of teachers of undoubted capabilities as principals, among whom may be mentioned Lyman Hutchinson, N. E. Goldthwaite, W. A. De La Matyr, M. E. Wadsworth, L. D. Harvey and Miss Inez C. Childs, all of whom have materially contributed to its success. The present principal is Charles F. Harding, of Springfield in this county.

In 1857, a frame school house was built to take the place of the log house before referred to, of ample size, as was supposed, to accommodate the increase of pupils consequent upon the growth of the village; but it was barely finished, before a portion had to be sent to the seminary building. In 1861, was commenced the erection of a brick edifice, 50 by 50 feet, two stories in height. This was occupied the following year, when the school was first organized under the graded system. In 1868, an addition was built, 30 by 50 feet, of the same height, making a building 50 by 80 feet, which was arranged for five departments. In 1876, however, it was again found necessary to occupy the former building, now known as the Town Hall, and to establish a primary school near the Wisconsin river.

In 1876, a free high school was established in the district, receiving state aid as provided by law. The grade, however, was already sufficient to enable pupils to enter the freshman class at the State University without further preparation; as an instance, at the last commencement, the following pupils passing direct from our school, graduated from this institution, namely: Misses Alice Stickney, Florence E. Mitchell, Hattie M. Hover, Tillie Reul, and Mr. W. A. Hover.

The district contains about five hundred and fifty pupils of school age, and upwards of four hundred were

in attendance the past year. Number of teachers employed, eight; cost of instruction, about $3,000 annually. Value of school building and site is over $10,000. The site contains eight lots, and is one of the prettiest locations for the purpose to be found. Good sidewalks are provided not only about the building and across the grounds, but reach to nearly all portions of the village, except on the higher grounds where they are not so much needed.

The present officers of the district are, Jonathan Jones, J. C. Cowdery and H. Z. Moulton, the latter having served in the capacity of clerk without interruption since 1862.

The business and other interests, not previously mentioned, are represented by J. C. Cowdery & Son, bankers; W. U. Hover, J. Murrish & Sons, C. M. Howe, L. A. Lincoln, J. A. Schmitz, Charles Butz, W. W. Whalon, and S. V. Wyckoff and Co., general dealers; Smith & Moulton, general hardware; J. Jones and Smith & Campbell, druggists; Whitney & Clark, boots and shoes; J. W. Robson, books and stationery, fruits and confectionery; C. A. Pierson and Hiram Lyford, groceries; L. C. Oulmann, butter and eggs; George Elliott, furniture and paper hangings; Fred Reinow, furniture and coffins; Fred. W. Giese and Otto Giese, jewelers; D. W. Bronson & Son and Richard Black, lumber dealers; L. A. Lincoln, A. Lange and J. T. Vaught, grain buyers; Ed. Pratt and Maj. A. B. Platt, agricultural implements; Harrop & Cork, tailors; Fred. Heydecke and John Denu, harnesses; C. E. Whelan, blacksmith and wagons; A. Preston & Sons, blacksmith and cultivators; John Askew, blacksmith and plows; A. P. Peck and Simeon Jones, shoemakers; Woolrich & Dame, meat market; Mrs. Charles Peters, market and confectionery; Mrs. John Schuesler, photographs; Mrs. S. A. Berry,

Mrs. E. H. Hart, Mrs. C. M. Howe, and Miss M. E. Kerr, millinery and dress making; Edward Huggins, restaurant; N. Kirch, bakery; Sutcliffe Bros., cigars; Tinker & Schlewch, brewers; S. F. Buck, barber; P. B. Learnard, repairing watches; J. A. J. Shower, undertaker; Isaac Thompson and Lawrence Wolf, coopers; J. F. Carlisle and H. G. Brunleib, liveries; T. T. Huntington and John Cammack, draymen; Thos. W. Wilson, builder; W. W. Whitney, millwright; L. W. Needham, Robert Sutcliffe, E. H. Haseltine, J. H. Richards and Ferd. Hader, carpenters; C. F. Moulton, Adam Gerner and M. Morrow, masons; Wm. Finlayson and A. N. Seymour are the proprietors of the extensive nurseries. The medical fraternity are represented by Wm. H. Gleason, T. F. Stair, C. A. Lyman and T. S. North; dentistry by J. G. Mawney; insurance by H. Z. Moulton.

The place is supplied with excellent hotels, all of which are well kept, and sufficiently large and roomy for the accommodation of the traveling public, who may feel assured of receiving the utmost attention from the genial proprietors. The "Carlisle House," kept by James Carlisle, is the largest; next in size and pretensions is the "Freeman House," kept by Theo. Freeman, while the "Commercial Hotel" is under the charge of John Westhauser, proprietor. Mr. N. Kirch has recently erected large and commodious buildings, and, in connection with other business, proposes to provide for the entertainment of the traveling public.

The Weekly Sickle, a newspaper published by D. W. Bronson & Son, with S. E. Bronson as editor, is among the important enterprises of the place, and is of great value and convenience to the citizens and business men. The first issue was dated March 9, 1874, and the circulation has increased gradually until it now numbers five hundred subscribers.

The village of Mazomanie is what may be termed a "railroad town," as it was directly through its influence that the place was first started, and through its business employment is given to a great number of persons. The construction train of the western division of the railway from Milwauke to Prairie du Chien makes its headquarters here. The train is under the charge of E. J. Whitney, conductor, with Frank Robinson as engineer, Mr. R. having held this position since 1865. This station ranks the fifth on the line (Pra. du C. division) as to amount of business. There is paid out to its different employees not less than $2,000 monthly, giving direct support to about fifty families, and indirectly adding largely to the general business interests of the town.

The *Fire Department* of Mazomanie is well deserving of attention in this sketch. It has been organized and worked up under exceeding difficulties, and several years have elapsed since its first conception, but through the persistent efforts of a few of her citizens — among whom may with propriety be mentioned the names of C. J. Trager, T. W. Wilson and R. Black — and the liberality of the business men of the place, it has now a well organized fire company, with an "A 1" hand power engine, hose cart and hook and ladder outfit, including truck, ladders, buckets, etc., costing upwards of twelve hundred dollars. The present officers are, C. J. Trager, foreman; J. A. J. Shower, first assistant, and T. T. Huntington, second assistant.

The population of the village is now about twelve hundred, mostly of American and English extraction. Of the foreign element, the German largely predominates, although the "Emerald Isle" furnishes a large representation. And while it is but slowly increasing in wealth and population, there seems to be an air of

permanency about the village and its improvements, that surely denotes a prosperous future.

The resources of the place are much the same as contribute to the support of nearly all of our western towns, being principally from grain growing districts around, making this a common center, although the peculiar adaptation of the surrounding country to grazing purposes will, at no distant future, make of it one of the most important dairying districts in the southern portion of the state. Even now it is estimated that more butter and eggs are shipped from this station than any other on the road west of Milwaukee.

Location and Scenery. — A sketch of Mazomanie would be incomplete that did not refer to its advantages as a place of residence, for such as desire a more quiet and retired life than the city affords, and yet enjoy most of its conveniences. The village is pleasantly located on both sides of Black Earth creek, where it opens out into the valley of the Wisconsin. South of the railroad, which passes through the place, a little south of the center, is a sharp rise of ground for a few rods, where we find a large plateau, where are many beautiful locations for residences not yet occupied. Still south of this, and adjoining the village, is a range of very pretty bluffs, skirted with forests of oak, making a fine background, and giving to the scenery a very picturesque appearance.

A magnificent view of the place and of the surrounding country may be had from the "school section" bluff on the southeast, which rises abruptly to the height of about three hundred feet above the level of the Wisconsin river. From this elevation the observer may look down upon the village, nestled among the maples and elms, with which every street is lined, and which have

become the pride of its citizens. Glancing to the northward, he will see the Wisconsin skirting the bluffs on the opposite side, many of which her currents have hewn squarely down to the water's edge; towards the northeast, he sees in the distance, across an alternating landscape of forest and field, the prairies of Sauk county, dotted here and there with farm-houses, and extending back to the Baraboo bluffs. On the east and southeast, Black Earth creek and her tributaries may be seen winding their serpentine courses through pleasant valleys and rich meadows, with the constantly varying scenery of forest, bluff, and cultivated field. On the south, at a distance of twelve miles, he distinctly sees the lofty summits of the Blue Mounds, towering like sentinels above the intervening elevations of land, while turning to the westward, the view opens upon a magnificent perspective of the broad valley of the Wisconsin, which may be seen for a distance of forty miles, an almost unbroken landscape of field and meadow, diversified with constantly receding patches of forest, while at intervals in the distance the abrupt faces of the bluffs upon either side of the river seem to approach each other, until at nearly the utmost range of vision they appear to meet, thus closing up the further view of the course of this magnificent river, on its way, through narrow defiles and shifting sands, to join the Father of Waters on his course to the Gulf of Mexico.

Although this village is not noted for its magnificent edifices, yet she has many pretty residences, public buildings, and places of business, no less than thirty of which are substantial, first-class brick and stone buildings. It has been the pride of her citizens to not only supply the lack of a natural growth of forest trees, by planting out large quantities of the rapidly growing maple and elm

on the streets, and with various kinds of evergreens and deciduous trees of different species, in private yards and grounds, but in beautifying them with flowers and shrubs, and adorning their dwellings with choice pictures and rare curiosities, as well as in providing for the literary and musical culture and entertainment of the household.

Society. — A noticeable feature in the social elements of which Mazomanie is composed is, that while it boasts of as good society as is furnished by any town of its size and pretensions, there is but little inclination to divide into "sets," as is too often the case, but with remarkable unanimity, her citizens are disposed to treat each other with the consideration to which they are entitled, without regard to "worldly wealth or honors." In societies and other organizations, a certain degree of exclusiveness is necessarily required.

In summing up the many desirable features possessed by Mazomanie, we must not overlook that of health, which is paramount to all other considerations in selecting a place for permanent location. It has long been known as one of the most healthful places in the country, as has often been remarked by those who have been acquainted with it for many years. Adding to this its beauty of location, its business capacities and resources, its convenience to leading places of the northwest, such as Milwaukee, Chicago, the capital of the state, etc., ready access to all points in Iowa and Minnesota, its society, churches and schools, make it one of the most desirable places of residence to be found among the smaller towns of the state.

# TOWNS ADJACENT.

## EVANSVILLE, ROCK CO.

BY D. JOHNSON, LEVI LEONARD AND JACOB WEST, Esq.

The township of Union, of which the village of Evansville is at the present time the principal and leading market town, was first settled in the fall of 1839. The first settlers were Chas. McMillan, Samuel Lewis, Stephen Jones, Erastus Quivey, John Rhinehart and Boyd Phelps. In the spring of 1840, there was a large immigration from the east and south to this part of the state, and among those making their homes in this town were Rev. John Griffith, Hiram Griffith, John A. Griffith, Ira Jones, Jacob West, John T. Baker, J. W. Haseltine, Levi Leonard, David Johnson, Daniel Johnson, John Cook, John Adams, Washington Higday and John Sale, and the population was further increased by a large immigration in the fall of the same year.

The first school house in the settlement was built in 1841, about a mile and a half west of the present site of Evansville, and the first teacher, Miss Mary Jane True. The next was built at or near the now village of Union, between Janesville and Madison, where the first post office was established. The third

school house in the town was built on the present site of Evansville, and was built of logs, and used both as church and school house, and the first teacher our now worthy citizen, Levi Leonard. The first settler on the land now embraced in the village plat was Amos Kirkpatrick, in 1842. About the same time Wilbur Potter settled here and built a chair factory, and then Henry and Lewis Spencer, whose residence is still here, they having built the first frame dwellings in the town. In the summer of 1845, J. M. Evans, from Laporte, Indiana, settled here and commenced the practice of medicine.

Up to 1848, the principal centers of business for the whole country between Janesville and Madison were at the village of Union, a post town on the territorial road three miles north of the present site of Evansville, or Cooksville, on the Badfish creek, four miles northeast of Union, and in that year William Winston and C. R. Bent built and filled the first store in the place, which up to this date had neither name nor post office, the citizens having to go to Union for their mail. Upon the establishing of a post office in 1849, the name of Evansville was chosen. In 1855, the ground was surveyed and platted, and the name of the post office was selected as the future name of the village, from which time to the present the growth of the place has been steady and healthy. In 1863, the Beloit and Madison railroad was completed, which gave the place a new impetus, and in 1865, Evansville became a chartered village, officered by a president

and board of trustees, clerk and treasurer, and under the healthy working of our charter and good management of its officers, our streets have been improved, sidewalks made and repaired, shade trees planted, until we now have as handsome and thrifty a village as there is in the west, and what with its water and steam power in the hands of our enterprising business men, bids fair for a prosperous future.

To the person seeking a pleasant home, or as a place of summer resort, there is no place in the west that offers better inducements than Evansville. Society is of the best, manifesting refinement, intelligence and good taste; not only in the well kept and nicely graded streets, good sidewalks, and the beautiful gardens and pleasant homes, with the absence of any saloons for the sale of intoxicating drinks, but with the prevailing influences of Christian privileges and blessings, is every thing that goes to make a home pleasant and desirable. The village is located in one of the best farming and grazing sections of Wisconsin, and is skirted on the north by a beautiful grove of oak timber, while in every other direction farms and farm houses abound in beautifying effect. The country, when in its natural state, was about one-half timber and the rest prairie; but since the stumps have been removed on the timber farms, and artificial groves planted on the prairie, a person unacquainted with the locality in former times would hardly distinguish the difference; with good roads, and pleasant drives in every direction, the seeker after pleasure or

pleasant homes can find no better place than Evansville.

In the first settlement of this town, the religious and moral tone of the people had much to do in the forming and regulating society, and in after years, through this influence, the sale of intoxicating drinks publicly, has always been prohibited; so that up to the present time, no license has ever been granted to a liquor saloon. The first church was organized in the summer of 1840 by the Episcopal Methodists, with a membership of twenty-seven; and the first church edifice was erected by them in 1846–47, being a plain but comfortable frame building. In the year 1866, the old church was sold to give place for a business block, and a new and more commodious one (built of white brick) was erected. The membership now numbers about 178, and the present pastor is the Rev. J. D. Cole.

The next church organization was the Freewill Baptist, in 1854, with a membership of 30, and the same year they erected a very neat frame church edifice, and furnished it with the first church bell. They have increased until they now number about 67 members. Their present pastor is the Rev. B. F. McKenney.

The next church was organized by the Congregationalists in the same year, 1854, with a membership of eleven, and in 1857 they erected a very neat red brick church edifice. Their numbers have increased, so that they have now a membership of sev

enty-five. The Rev. James W. Harris is their present pastor.

The regular Baptists next organized a church in 1856, with thirty-four members, and reorganized in 1867, and in this year they erected a very commodious white brick church edifice, and furnished it with a bell. Their numbers have increased to seventy-one. The Rev. C. N. Lathrop is their present pastor.

The Episcopalians next organized a society in 1869, with a membership of twenty-five, and in 1870, they erected a very neat frame edifice, and furnished it with the best bell in the place. Their numbers have increased to forty-six members, and their present rector is the Rev. Henry Green.

The early settlers were not unmindful of the necessity of providing for the education of their children, knowing well that the prosperity of our country and its civil liberties depended on the education of the rising generation. Our common schools under the township organization were in a flourishing condition, but the rapid growth of our village demanded higher branches of education; consequently an organization was formed for the purpose of erecting a seminary of learning, August 10, 1855, and a charter was obtained the winter following; at the same time a select or high school was commenced in the Methodist Episcopal Church building, it being the most suitable place for a high school, under the supervision of R. O. Kellogg, and was continued under the supervision of competent teachers till the spring of 1859, when D.

Y. Kilgore opened a school in the seminary building, and continued prosperously under the patronage of the different Christian denominations until the spring of 1874. In 1868–9 the citizens of Evansville, in accordance with the state laws, organized and built a large graded school building, and opened under the supervision of S. S. Gard. Of the many graduates from the Evansville Seminary, quite a number have arisen to eminence and distinction, among which we might mention the Rev. W. H. Spencer, now of Haverhill, Mass.; Rev. Mr. Marshall, now a missionary at the East Indies; J. W. Sale, now district attorney of Rock county; B. W. Jones, ex-district attorney of Dane county; L. B. Sale, attorney, Green Bay; Hon. R. F. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Dakota; Geo. R. Mitchell, M. D., Richland Center; D. B. Bennett, M. D., Colorado. The graded school, as now changed to a high school, seemed to supersede the necessity of the seminary, as has been the case with many of the institutions of this kind, it only being a step from this to the State University. The high school department is now under the supervision of A. R. Sprague, principal, with an able assistant, and also four graded departments with an able corps of teachers, which are now in a very prosperous and flourishing condition.

Among the business enterprises of the place, the foundry and machine shop of A. S. Baker & Co. deserves special mention. The company started in business in April, 1873; commencing at first in a

small way, but procuring the best of machinery, their busines has been steadily on the increase until at the present time they are doing a flourishing business, employing ten or twelve men, and have a reputation of doing first class work, having in the past year manufactured 1,800 iron pumps, 100 windmills, besides doing a large amount of jobbing work and repairing. Also the manufactory of Lehman Brothers, wholesale and retail manufacturers and dealers in household furniture, commenced business in August, 1870; they too, commencing small and enlarging as the wants of the trade demanded, until they have built up a business that is an honor to the place, and doing a business at the present time amounting to over twenty thousand dollars a year. Both the above mentioned factories use steam for power.

The First National Bank of Evansville was established in November, 1874, and continued as such till January, 1875; it then changed to the state system, under the name of the Bank of Evansville, with a paid up capital of $25,000, and the stock is now owned by L. T. Pullen and J. C. Sharp, who are its officers; and the average deposits amount to about $50,000, which shows the prosperity of the business men here, as well as the confidence they have in the bank. In the dry goods and grocery department are five well filled stores. The firm of N. Winston & Sons commenced business in 1855, under the firm name of J. Winston & Sons; although there have been some changes, the present senior partner has been a

continuous member during the whole time, and is now doing a large and profitable business. Smith & Eager commenced business in the building now occupied by them, in 1868, and have had an extensive trade, and at present are classed among our successful business men. Winston & Woodbury are successors of J. Winston & Son, established in 1863. Some changes have been made, but the present R. Winston has been a continuous member of the firm from the start; it is an old reliable house. Evansville Mercantile Association do a dry goods, groceries and general mercantile business; said association was established in 1874, under the auspices of the Patrons of Husbandry. The association has the past year built a large and commodious store, with a fine hall above for the use of the Evansville Grange. They are having an extensive trade, and must be doing a satisfactory business; their present agent and business manager is T. C. Richardson. Pullen & Wilder commenced business in 1874; although they are both young men, they are not young in business, having both been raised to handle the tape; they have already built up a large and prosperous trade, and, in the end, must win. Our business in the groceries and confectionery goods are represented by three well stocked stores. Ransom Griffin commenced business in 1871; Richardson Brothers commenced in 1874, and Bevier & Hall in 1876; all doing a good business in their line.

There are two well filled drug stores in the place where can always be found drugs, paints, oils, window

glass, and everything usually found in first-class drug stores. The old pioneer drug store is run by Doctors Dewitt Griswold and J. M. Evans — the other by C. M. Smith, M. D. The hardware trade of the place is now controlled by Snashall & Mygatt, an enterprising firm; they carry a large stock of the best goods. F. A. Baker, practical tinner, keeps a large stock of tinware on sale. Two clothing stores, E. Robinson, established in 1870, and Spencer & Pullen, in 1876; both doing a good business. The retail trade of boots and shoes is in the hands of Geo. E. Shaw and C. K. Landon, two well filled stores. Two boot and shoe shops, one run by Plaisted & Bargewell, the other by Chas. Clifford. Three milliners' stores, one by Mrs. Gunn, one by Mrs. Morrow, and the other by Misses Gilman & Spencer. Evansville has long been noted for its harness manufacture, and there are at the present time four harness shops; E. W. Stearns, established in 1855, E. Blakeley in 1864, H. Monshau in 1870, and George Taggart in 1877. In each and all can be found the goods usually kept in first-class harness shops. Blakeley and Stearns carry on carriage trimming in connection with their business. In butchers' meats we are bountifully supplied; three first-class markets — Campbell & Springer, established in 1871, Joslin & Budlong in 1875, and Hayward Brother in 1876. We have two well stocked lumber yards — one by Fifield & Co. (K. F. Randolph, agent), established in 1864, the other by R. Winston & Co., 1873 — both doing a good business. Have an extensive country, as well as

village trade. Four wagon and carriage shops — John H. Winston, established in 1861; John Evans, 1870; Allen & Holman, 1876, and Baker & Garfield, 1876. Three blacksmith shops — Baker & Garfield, Allen & Holman, and Clifford & Gratasinger. Baker & Garfield also carry on the manufacture of plows, in connection with their other business. There is one well filled jewelery store, with a large stock for the size of the place, owned and run by C. B. Morse, practical workman. The best goods for sale, and the best work done.

The mechanics and artisans of the place are second to no other. Our list of carpenters and joiners comprises the well known names of N. Libby, Wm. Libby, Daniel Doolittle, Wm. H. Morgan, L. Walker, A. Snashall, A. Hoskins and William Wilcox. Masons and plasterers, D. B. Huckins, T. F. Shurrum and James Brown. House and carriage painters, M. E. Hanover, Chas. Pows and Geo Backenstose.

The best index to the intelligence of any people can be found at the post office, and printing office. As the room allotted will not admit of a detailed statement of the business of our office, we will mention the business for one quarter, ending December 31, 1876, of the Evansville post office:

| | |
|---|---|
| Received for money orders and fees on same | $4,710 38 |
| Received for stamps and envelops | 521 09 |
| Received for box rents | 45 20 |
| | $5,276 67 |
| Paid money orders drawn on this office | 3,284 99 |
| Total for the quarter | $8,561 66 |

The Evansville *Review*, a weekly newspaper, was

established here in 1866, by I. A. Hoxie, its present owner and editor. For ten long years it has covered up our faults, exalted our virtues, received our abuse, and not unfrequently abused us in return, and yet it still lives.

The morals of the place can be judged by the large number of ministers, and but one lawyer. Of ministers, we have Reverends E. Robinson, C. H. Wilder, C. N. Lathrop, J. W. Harris, B. F. McKinney, Henry Green and J. D. Cole. The law has been expounded to us for the last twenty-two years by the Hon. D. L. Mills, who pleads our causes, makes our conveyances, and, in addition, does a large amount of insurance business, he having always represented some of the best companies in the United States. Of physicians, we have Doctors J. M. Evans, M. C. Smith, E. W. Beebe, and A. H. Robinson, dentist and surgeon. Among the institutions that should have been mentioned, but was almost forgotten, is that of West & Potter, dealers in chromos, engravings, stereoscopic views, cords, tassels, picture frames, school books, stationery, and news depot, rooms at the post office.

Strangers stopping here can find two good hotels, and take their choice. The Spencer House is located in the center of the business portion of town, and is kept by Col. Beebe. The Evansville House, kept by Daniel Wadsworth, near the depot. Both no license houses, as there never has been a license to sell intoxicating drinks granted, since the first organization of the town, and if the morals of its inhabitants can be kept up to the present standard, there never will be.

## LAKE KOSHKONONG.

BY AN OLD SETTLER.

Lake Koshkonong is principally situated in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, but its southwest end touches Dane county, and its southern part, Rock county. Its main length is about nine miles, in the direction of northeast and southwest; its broadest part about four miles. Its shape is somewhat irregular, and it has its bays and promontories, and which are known as Buffalo and Bingham's bays, and Lee's, Taylor's and Bingham's "points." Rock river enters the lake at the northeast end, at Blackhawk Island, and leaves it at the southwest end, at Newville. On the northwest side, Koshkonong creek and Alpeter's creek, and on the southeast side, Otter creek, add to the volume of its water, as also do innumerable springs all around and in many places even in the lake, which is rather a shallow sheet of water, with mostly muddy bottom.

What is called "Blackhawk Island" is an island only at high water, and is formed by having the Rock river on the east, and the lake on the south and west side, being connected with the main land only by a narrow strip of low land on the north.

The land surrounding the lake consists to a great extent of low and very extensive marshes, on which thousand of tons of hay are annually cut; but limestone bluffs exist in many places all around the lake, viz.: at C. Lee's, R. Bingham's, Taylor's point, Newville, E. Bingham's, and the place of Mr. Langhoff.

The lake, with its, in many places, marshy shores and hundreds of acres of wild rice, and the grass-like

plant, known to botanists as *Vallisneria spiralis*, growing in it in the greatest abundance, used to be a great favorite place for ducks, and especially the far-famed Canvassback (*Aythya vallisneria*), which, with the Redhead, is particularly fond of the *Vallisneria spiralis*. Geese, cormorants and white pelicans were also very numerous, and fifty to one hundred of those latter birds could be seen at one time in the latter part of April or first of May.

In the marshes and on the shores were a great variety of waders, viz.: the great blue heron, the large white heron, the snowy heron, the night heron, and the least heron, six species of the plover family and Wilson's *Phalarope*, the most beautiful of all our waders, was in abundance. Of the snipe family, twenty species, besides curlews and godwits. Three species of rails, and gallinules and coats, very plenty. But owing to a continued sporting kept up every spring and fall for years, the birds have either greatly diminished in number or found other places where they are less disturbed, as now-a-days but few visit the lake compared with what they did only ten years ago. Ducks, even such as shelldrakes, whistlers and butterballs, bring something in the markets of the large cities, and hence they must be killed and sold for the little they bring. Coots are yet numerous, though not so numerous as formerly; but though they don't sell as well as shelldrakes and butterballs, yet, if nothing else can be had, the fun of shooting them is all the same.

As for the fish in the lake, the time is past when twenty-eight to thirty-five pound pickerels can be found, or twenty-five pound catfish. Bullheads and

perch, sunfish, garpikes and dogfish are common yet; but the pike, pickerel, bass, redhorse, sucker and catfish are not near as plentiful as formerly. Perhaps the dams across the Rock river, below the lake, are too powerful hindrances for the fish of the Mississippi river to go up to our waters to spawn; if so, we are effectually prevented from ever having shad successfully planted in this part of Rock river.

Having been more interested in the ornithology and botany of the lake and its vicinity than in the archæology, I am not able to give such information in regard to the latter as I should wish, and will only mention a few facts that have come under my observation, mostly on the west side of the lake, where I have lived nearly 34 years, facts proving that this lake and vicinity have been a great resort of the Indians.

On the land of Mr. R. Bingham are patches of ground where yet can be seen what is supposed to be cornhills worked by the Indians. While plowing or hoeing, Indian arrows, stone implements and pieces of pottery are frequently found; these relics are especially numerous on the farms of Mr. R. Bingham and Mr. Charles Lee, who has an extensive and interesting collection, picked up on his farms.

Indian mounds of different sizes and shapes were numerous on the west side of the lake, but many of them are now leveled by the plows. Of the large mound "at the foot of the lake" lately opened and investigated, and where interesting relics were found, I can say nothing, as I have never visited the place. At Busseyville, near the creek, there used to grow a very large oak which, thirty-four years ago, and at that time considered old, had a very plain and good

figure of a mud turtle cut on the side, towards the creek, and on the hill north of it, were several mounds, some of which had the shape of mud turtles. These mounds are now leveled, and the land cultivated.

About thirty years ago, while botanizing near the lake, I found tobacco (*nicotiana rustica lin*) growing in a wild state among the grass on Mr. R. Bingham's land, and I understood that tobacco was found growing even on the other side of the lake at about the same time. This was at a time when the first settlers never had heard of raising tobacco in the state. Since which there is scarcely a farmer for miles around that is not engaged in raising tobacco.

In 1844, there was a steamboat going through the lake, said to have come up from St. Louis. The new settlers hailed this occurrence with great pleasure and hopes, expecting to have a communication by water opened with the cities on the Mississippi river, and having no railroad nearer than Buffalo, N. Y., and sixty to seventy miles to haul their grain to Milwaukee, it is no wonder that they considered the coming up of this steamboat as a Godsend. The idea never occurred to them that this big Rock river, on which with their own eyes they had seen a steamboat from St. Louis, ever could be, by any authority, pronounced an unnavigable stream, and dams allowed to be built across it.

There is, after all, a steamboat on the lake now, built and moored at Taylor's point, where there is also a good hotel for visitors, but this boat will probably have to confine its trips between Taylor's point, Fort Atkinson and Newville, or to making excursions around the lake.

# BROOKLYN.

BY J. W. HASELTINE, Esq.

The town of Brooklyn is situated in the northeast corner of Green county, and borders on the towns of Rutland and Oregon in Dane county. In the northeast part of the town there is some very good land, partly of burr oak opening and good prairie, with some fine groves of timber, while on the east side of the town there are a few sections of good prairie land. The balance of the town is oak openings, much of it quite high and rolling, and not of the best quality.

The first land bought for actual settlement was by the writer, on the 26th day of December, 1839, on the north half of section three, and which he still occupies. The first house in the town was built by W. W. McLaughlin in the fall of 1842, on the south half of section three, and who occupied the same farm up to the time of his death, April 2, 1877. The names of the early settlers of the town are J. W. Haseltine, W. W. McLaughlin, Charles Sutherland, Elder John Sawin and his three sons, Alvin, Ethan and Lorenzo, Stephen Smith and three sons, Jonathan, Charles and Emery, Leonard and Ezra Doolittle, Amos D. and William Kirpatrick, Sylvester Gray, C. D. W. and Arah Leonard, Jeremiah Anderson and son Amos (the father now occupying the farm first selected, aged eighty-two), Nelson J. and Franklin Patterson, William B. Patterson, William R. Smith, Sr., and William R. Smith, Jr., and John Pace. Henry Montgomery and his three sons, Cyrus A., Tracy and John, were early settlers in the town. Cyrus A.

and John still reside here. The father died in 1846, and was the first death in the town.

Of the above list of persons, those who have died are W. W. McLaughlin, John Sawin, Stephen Smith, Wm. Kirkpatrick, Sylvester Gray, Amos Anderson, Wm. R. Smith, Sr., and John Pace. Others have moved away, so that few of the very early settlers remain.

Alonzo Melvin with a large family settled on a farm on section one, about the year 1850. Five sons of the family enlisted in the army of the late war of the rebellion, and suffered terribly by disease and death. Shepard and Taylor died suddenly of disease contracted while in the army. Fordice R. was shot through the wrists and disabled for life. He holds the office of treasurer of Green county, and has done so for three terms or six years, ending January 1, 1877, and as such has proved himself an honest and capable officer. Oliver was also brought home from the army terribly diseased, but has finally recovered and is now a resident of the town. Austin A. was the only one of the five who came back unharmed. Alonzo, the father, died two years since, full of years, honored and respected by all who knew him, one of nature's noble, honest men.

The town was organized and the first town meeting held in the house of Nelson J. Patterson, on the 7th day of April, 1849, the writer acting as clerk and making the first election returns from the town to Monroe, the county seat. The following officers were elected: *Chairman of the Town Board* — Amos D. Kirkpatrick. *Town Clerk* — O. P. Stowell. *Assessor* — W. W. McLaughlin. *Treasurer* — Martin Flood. *Superintendent of Schools* — G. G. Godfrey.

Names that have been prominent among the town officers are W. W. McLaughlin, who was chairman of the town board many years, and assessed the town

twelve or thirteen times, and has twice been a member of the legislature. Amos D. Kirkpatrick was chairman several years, also a member of the legislature once or twice. C. D. W. Leonard has also been chairman many times, and twice a member of the legislature from the north assembly district in Green county. Town clerks have been, O. P. Stowell, James McCoy, for eleven successive years, J. W. Haseltine, Ed. Netherwood, M. F. Ross, and others.

The town is well provided with school houses and has two Methodist churches, one in Attica and one in Brooklyn. At an early day the village of Attica was laid out on Sugar river, in the southwest corner of the town, and at one time contained a flouring and saw mill, a carding machine, a fulling and cloth dressing machine, and also distillery. The village is situated on Sugar river, and has an excellent water power, but now has only a good flouring mill, owned by Joseph Bartlett.

The village of Brooklyn is situated in the northeast corner of the town, on the railroad, midway between Evansville and Oregon, six miles from either. It contains four stores, a cheese factory, a good lumber yard, a livery stable, two hotels, a postoffice, two blacksmith shops, two harness shops, and does a large produce and stock business, conducted by E. J. Andrew & Sons.

B. S. Axtell is the oldest merchant and is postmaster. He commenced business here soon after the railroad was built, and does a safe business. L. J. Wilder keeps a good store and is an excellent business man. The Marvin brothers manage the hardware, and honest Charles S. Gray runs the "Grange Store." E. J. Andrew & Sons have an elevator with large storage capacity, and conduct a good business in produce and stock. They maintain an excellent market, and are ever ready to deal honorably with their customers.

They have done much to make Brooklyn a good market for a large section of country. Lovejoy & Richards sell the lumber. Frank Lane does a lively livery business. Conradson, in wood and iron is "a workman that need not be ashamed." Melvins & Blair own the cheese factory, and have a reputation for making good cheese. J. A. Leonard, blacksmith; W. A. Morrow, harness maker; J. R. Richards, harness maker; E. H. Graves, railroad agent; E. D. King, confectionery and restaurant; D. H. Glidden, hotel; Miss Mattie Wallace and Mrs. Addie Murray, milliners.

Brooklyn is gradually improving, a few buildings going up every year, and is a great convenience and help to this section of the country.

# LODI.

BY Hon. JOHN T. CLARK.

Location. — The town joins the town of Dane, in Dane county, on the north, and is situated in the southwest part of Columbia county. It is formed of township No. 10 north, of range 8 east, according to government survey, except sections 6, 7, 18, 19, 30 and 31, which form the west tier of sections of said township, and belong to the town of West Point. The territory of which the town is formed was at first a part of Brown county, then of Portage county, and in 1846, when Columbia county was organized, it was made a part of the last named county. The town of Lodi was organized in 1849, previous to which time the territory described as town 10, ranges 7, 8 and the west half of range 9, constituted, for voting purposes, a precinct called "Pleasant Valley precinct." As at first organized, the town embraced all the territory belonging to said precinct. The name of the town was suggested by Judge Palmer.

In the year 1850, the town of West Point was taken from the western part of said territory, embracing all of township 10, range 7 (the same being made fractional by the course of the Wisconsin river), also the west tier and a half of sections in township 10, range 8.

In the year 1855, the town of Arlington was formed on the east of Lodi, taking therefrom the west half of town 10, range 9, except the west tier of sections in said west half, which west tier of sections remained a part of Lodi, until the year 1871, when the county board of supervisors of Columbia county, to whom the matter had

been committed by an act of the legislature, attached the same to the town of Arlington.

At the time of the organization of Arlington, the half tier of sections on the west, which had been made a part of West Point, was returned to Lodi.

Soil. — The soil is mostly what is called "openings;" a small part is prairie. The surface is quite undulating, sometimes rising into bluffs of considerable height. The soil is fertile, especially along the streams, except in the northern and northeastern parts, where it degenerates into sand, and is nearly worthless. The town is watered by one of the finest and most reliable streams in the state. About four miles southwest of the village, in the town of Dane, you find a marsh, nearly circular, covering from a section and a half to two sections of land. Around this marsh, in almost every direction, the land rises, and in some places to great heights. At the foot of these hills and about the borders of this marsh crop out springs innumerable, which, uniting in a single stream, flow in a northeasterly direction and form the west branch of Spring creek. Some of these springs are very small, while others are ten or twelve feet in diameter, from which wells up the purest water.

This stream enters Lodi on the south line of section 33, and continues its northeasterly course through sections 33 and 34, and into section 27, where it receives, from the southeast, a tributary of the same character, which is called the east branch of Spring creek. At this point the stream takes a northwesterly course and flows out of the town through the west line of section 8, into the town of West Point. About half a mile from the west line of Lodi, it receives a large tributary, known as Rowan's creek; thence, flowing out on about a mile and a half, it discharges its waters into the Wisconsin river, opposite the village of Merrimac, in Sauk county.

The value of this stream to the town can hardly be estimated. It determined the first point of settlement, and fixed the location of the village, and of the railroad. It furnishes one of the best water powers in southern Wisconsin. This pure spring water cannot be surpassed for the propogation and raising of fish. The east branch only as yet has been used in fish culture.

About a half mile southeast of the village, on the east branch of Spring creek, may be found the fish ponds of James McCloud, Nathaniel Goodall and —— Nelson, of which McCloud's are by far the most extensive. From the last named gentleman the following information concerning his doings in fish culture has been derived: He has in his park, of about two acres, six ponds stocked with fish, which are all doing well. Within this park are about a dozen springs, out of which gushes the purest spring water, which maintains almost an even temperature throughout the year. In April, 1875, he made two ponds, in one of which he put 1,000 young brook trout or fry, and in the other, 5,000 fry of the Atlantic salmon. In the fall of the same year, he made four more ponds, one of which he stocked with brook trout one year old, one with black and white bass; and with the bass he also put in four sturgeon, which appear to do well. One pond he stocked with catfish. In November, 1875, he put into his hatching house 10,000 spawn of the California salmon, which hatched out during the winter. The bass, catfish and two years old trout spawned last spring.

Three ponds are now filled with young fish which are growing rapidly. The writer of this chapter visited these ponds last week and saw the fish fed. It is a sight worth many miles' travel. A thousand speckled trout, from six to ten inches long, within a space of about twenty feet square, leaping and gliding over each

other and out of the water for their food (water clear as crystal), turning up their beautiful sides in the sunlight, would strengthen the weak eyes of an old fisherman.

This creek had evidently been a favorite resort for the aborigines, as is proven by the great number of mounds along its banks.

This stream is unfailing. When all the water powers for miles around have given out, parties can here get their grinding done. They have come here, in time of drought, even from beyond Madison, and "blessed is the man" who can get Lodi flour.

Early Settlement. — In the month of April, 1845, two brothers, M. C. Bartholomew and G. M. Bartholomew, came from McLean county, Illinois, and settled on section 22, in this town. In May following came Rev. H. Maynard, a Methodist minister, and planted himself on section 21. In the fall of the same year came James McCloud, and stuck his stakes on section 27 and built his preëmption house, which was a log house, near his present residence. This has been his home ever since, though in the spring of 1846 he was employed in running lumber on the Wisconsin river. On the last of October in this year came W. G. Simons and settled on section 33, where he still resides. These were all the settlers who came that year.

In 1846, came I. H. Palmer and settled on section 27, and in the spring of that year built his house, and during the year built a saw mill on the west branch of Spring creek. The building is still standing at the east end of Andrews' mill dam, and near the law office of R. Lindsay, Esq. In the same year came Adam Bowman, Nathan Bowman, Joseph Brown and Jacob Hurley, all of whom settled upon section 26; Aaron Chalfant and Johnson Sowards, on section 21; Amos and Jehu Strowd, on sections 25 and 36, and John Chance, on

section 19. In 1847, came T. S. Wells and settled on section 9; Nathaniel Goodall, upon section 26, and Peter Froland, upon sections 25 and 36. Others came in this year, and from this time the settlement progressed rapidly.

Indians. — When the first settlers came in 1845, they found about two hundred Indians encamped on the creek, near where the village now stands. These were mostly Winnebagoes; a few were Brothertowns. During that season they were very peaceable and friendly. In the fall of that year they all disappeared. In the year 1847, they came back, to the number of about eighty, with their chief, and camped on the creek below where the Bartholomews had settled. They soon began to show their natural propensities, and the property of the settlers occasionally disappeared. One of the settlers, G. M. Bartholomew, returning to his home from an absence, found the Indians had stolen a part of his hogs. He went to the chief and complained. The chief "denied the soft impeachment," but the complainant insisted, and resolutely told Mr. Chief that he could have till the next morning when the sun was "so high," telling him how high by pointing, to be off. The chief promised to be off at once, and to go to the "Milwaukee Woods." Thereupon Bartholomew roused the settlers, to the number of 20 to 25, and the next morning, when the sun was "*so high*," they appeared at the spot "with horse and gun," but the Indians had left. Fearing they might camp again near enough to enable them to continue their depredations, our cavalry followed their trail, and found them just striking their tents on Rowan's creek, in what is now the town of Dekorra, near the old tavern stand of James Wilson. As the settlers approached the camping ground, they were discovered by two hunters who were apparently going out to bring in some game,

either *tame or wild*, and the hunters seeing the fearful array, and doubtless fearing "more to follow," wheeled on their ponies, and rapidly returned. The pursuers halted, and Bartholomew went forward to the camping ground (their tents were not yet raised), and inquired of the chief if this were "Milwaukee Woods." The chief answered "No;" whereupon he was informed that he could have just five minutes in which to take his departure. At the expiration of the time named, the red skins were on the move. The pursuers followed at a respectful and effective distance as far as what is now the village of Poynette, and then returned to their homes. The Indians never reappeared nor made further trouble.

The first dwelling erected in town was a shanty by M. C. Bartholomew, in building which, he was assisted by two Brothertown Indians. This stood on section 22, near the spot where the barn of W. M. Bartholomew now stands.

The second house was that of Rev. H. Maynard, on section 21, near the present residence of Jonas Narracong, and the third house was that of G. M. Bartholomew, on section 22, near the house now owned by Miller Warren.

Mills. The first mill erected in town was the saw mill by I. H. Palmer, as before stated; the next was a grist mill just below the junction of the two branches of Spring creek, on section 27, by Samuel Ring, in 1848, since owned by Freedom Simons, Adam Schoneberger, James H. Hill, and now owned and lately improved by Peter Kehl. Next, in 1849, came the grist mill of I. H. Palmer on the west branch of Spring creek, for a long time owned and run by him, and now owned and run by E. Andrews.

Next came, in 1853, the grist mill on section 16, built and for a long time owned and run by Jonas Narracong,

since owned by Clark & Parr, afterwards owned again by Narracong, and now owned and run by Voss Brothers.

In the same year, 1853, Dunlap & Blatchley erected a building on section 17, intended for a pail factory, which in 1858 was converted into a flouring mill, and for several years was run as such by various parties. It was burned in 1874, and has not been rebuilt.

In or about the year 1855, Samuel Ring built a saw mill on section 8, at a point since known as Okee; this he afterwards sold to T. S. Wells, who added a feed mill, owned and run the mills for some time, and sold out to John Brownrig, who, in 1875, erected a large grist mill, and carding mill at the same place, which he still owns and runs. E. Andrews is now preparing to build a new flouring mill on section 27.

All these mills are on Spring creek, which furnishes the only water power in town.

The early settlers of this town were a sagacious and remarkably enterprising class of men. They saw that this water power, and the shape of the country surrounding it, pointed to the valley of Spring creek as a business center, and that about the junction of these two branches of the creek, must be collected large manufacturing and business interests. They, accordingly, took off their coats and went resolutely and hopefully at the work of building up a town.

I. H. Palmer, who has long been known in all the country round as Judge Palmer, he having been, in early times, county judge for a very large district about here, felt impressed with the idea that this place was related to the whole world, and in order to grow, the people must know what was going on abroad, and they must have "the papers." Therefore he applied to the government for a post office. The government, not knowing the promise of the location as well as the set-

tlers, and regarding it as a small affair in an out of the way place, denied the application. Judge Palmer, nothing daunted, then proposed to the government, that if a post office could be located here, government should be at no expense for a year, either for the office or for carrying the mail. The nearest post office was Clark's Corners, in the town of Springfield, Dane county, a distance of nine miles, and the the mail must be brought from that point. The government accepted the proposition, and the Judge was appointed the first post master of Lodi, in July, 1848. Until April, 1849, he carried and brought, or caused to be carried and brought, and distributed the mail to and from Clark's Corners. The receipts of the office for the first quarter were $2.28. Unlike most offices, though it had a name, it had no local habitation, or rather, it had a portable habitation, being carried about in the judge's hat.

As in the late war the military service became efficient when headquarters were in Gen. Grant's saddle, so in this young town the mail service was efficient when its *head*quarters were in Judge Palmer's hat, for it appeared that when the year had expired, the Government found that Lodi was something, or was going to be, and, in 1849, established a mail route here, with James O. Eaton as P. M. He held the office till 1853, when H. M. Ayer was appointed. James O. Eaton succeeded him in 1861. In 1867, Robert Travis succeeded Eaton, and held the office till January, 1875, when H. R. Eaton, the present incumbent, was appointed.

It is said that when Judge Palmer kept the postoffice in his hat, sometimes a sudden gust of wind would come, blow his hat off and scatter the mail. So it appears this town had its news literally " borne on the wings of the wind."

Satisfied that Lodi gave promise of rapid increase of

population and of becoming a good business point, in the summer of 1848, Judge Palmer platted a part of section 27 as a village, to which he afterwards made two additions. James McCloud has also made three additions, and John Foote, one. The village was called Lodi, and incorporated in 1872, embracing section 27, and naught else.

Its first officers were: Horatio N. Cowen, *president;* E. Andrews, Alex. Woods, James McCloud, H. C. Bradley, William Dunlap and Leonard F. Wanner, *trustees;* Carlos Bacon, *clerk;* John Foote, *supervisor;* J. M Pruyn, *treasurer;* H. M. Ayer, *police justice.*

VILLAGE OFFICERS.

1873. E. W. Gardner, *president;* E. Andrews, Wm. Dunlap, I. V. N. Walker, Wm. Goldspohn, Thos. Albiston, Fred. Hanson, *trustees;* H. M. Ayer, *clerk;* J. M. Pruyn, *treasurer;* H. M. Ayer, *assessor;* John Foote, *supt. of schools;* A. Woods, *police justice.*

1874. E. W. Gardner, *president;* E. Andrews, Wm. Dunlap, I. V. N. Walker, Wm. Goldspohn, Thos. Albiston, Fred. Hanson, *trustees;* H. M. Ayer, *clerk;* H. L. Bancroft, *treasurer;* John Foote, *supt. of schools;* G. T. Simons, *constable;* G. M. Bartholomew, *justice of the peace;* James Seville, *police justice.*

1875. E. W. Gardner, *president;* E. Andrews, Wm. Dunlap, I. V. N. Walker, Wm. Goldspohn, Thos. Albiston, Fred. Hanson, *trustees;* H. M. Ayer, *clerk;* John Yule, *treasurer;* John Foote, *supt. of schools;* G. T. Simons, *constable;* G. M. Bartholomew, *justice of the peace;* H. M. Ayer, *police justice.*

1876. E. W. Gardner, *president;* E. Andrews, J. O. Eaton, G. E. McKeebe, Wm. Goldspohn, Thos. Albiston, Peter Kehl, *trustees;* J. M. Bartholomew, *clerk;* John Yule, *treasurer;* Addison Eaton, *supt. of schools;* Alfred Clements, *constable;* S. S. Dunning, *justice of the peace;* H. M. Ayer, *police justice.*

1877. Thos. Albiston, *president;* E. Knuteson, E. Andrews, Peter Kehl, W. M. Bartholomew, Henry B. Bancroft, J. O. Eaton, *trustees;* J. M. Bartholomew, *clerk;* Orrin Rice, *treasurer;* G. M. Bartholomew, *police justice;* E. W. Gardner, *justice of the peace;* Addison Eaton, *supervisor;* J. U. Ray, *constable.*

The first store was built in 1848, by I. H. Palmer, and occupied by James O. Eaton, in December, of that year, which business was continued by said Eaton until 1859. The second store was opened by Thomas & Pinney,

December, 1848, who afterwards sold out to Samuel Ring. The third store was opened by L. D. Barnes, in the fall of 1850, who during the same year took in as a partner, James McCloud, who in various forms has continued in the business ever since. At present there are in business in the village of Lodi: General merchandise: Pruyn & Son, McCloud & Son, J. Seville, Eaton & Cowen and E. Knutesen. Drugs and medicines: Bartholomew and Wanner, and J. McCloud & Son. Hardware: E.B. Waite & Co., J. F. Collins & Bro. Harness: Chase & Harris and John Collins. Shoes: Chase & Co. Meat markets: J. M. Pruyn and C. Dearborn. Jeweler: Henry Haggard. Millinery: Mrs. G. T. Simons, Mrs. Richards. Tailor: T. Watson. Livery: G. T. Simons, P. Watson. Furniture: C. Odell, M. Wickern. Blacksmiths: Chrisler & Co., S. Holdridge, A. Ferguson, Hans Kleber. Wagons: Quiggle & Terrill, John Buchanan, Henry Schlosser. Shoemakers: M. Cain, Ole Logan. Hotels: Briggs House, by P. Watson; Northwestern, by J. T. Hidden. Restaurants: S. H. Hinds, Thos. Sparks. Groceries and provisions: Otto H. Hinrichs. Baker: L. Buerger. Lumber: Vanderpool & Goldspohn, J. McCloud. Dairy supplies: Vaughan & Brookman. Flouring mills; E. Andrews, P. Kehl. Cheese factory: Lodi Valley Cheese Co. Lawyers: R. Lindsay, S. H. Watson. Printer: Peter Richards, publisher of Lodi Valley News. Physicians: E. Howard Irvin, G. E. McKeebe, S. M. Blake. Dentist: E. B. Meeteer. Card printer and barber: O. F. Modler.

On section 8, and near the west line of the same, on Spring creek, in 1855, Messrs. Matthews and Blatchley platted a small village. It was surveyed by G. M. Bartholomew, and named by him Okee, that being the Indian name given to the creek near that point, which is now called Rowan's creek, from the name of Wallace

Rowan, the first settler upon it. At Okee are Brownrig's Mills, already described.

Over twenty years since, Lodi felt deeply the want of a market. Situated about midway between Portage and Madison, surrounded on three sides by a most excellent farming country, the land descending to the village in all directions except where Spring creek passes out, the weighty products gravitated to this point. But no one could buy them, because twenty miles lay between the village and a railroad. Hence, the proprietors of the town, the business men, and the population as well, looked in all directions for an iron road. After many schemes, which for a time gave hope, had failed, at last the Chicago and Northwestern Company were induced, by the very liberal offer of $40,000 from Lodi, with considerable sums from other towns on the line, to build their road between Chicago and St. Paul through this town and village. The road was opened in the month of August, 1871. Thereupon, Lodi became at once a market town, and it is said that more grain and stock of all kinds are shipped from here than from any other station on the road. Lodi is no longer out of the world.

Churches. — *Methodist.* The four settlers who came in 1845 were all Methodists; one of them a minister. In that year Rev. L. Harvey established a church, consisting of Rev. H. Maynard, his wife and daughter. M. C. Bartholomew, wife and daughter, and G. M. Bartholomew and wife — eight. Class leader, G. M. Bartholomew. The ministers who have served this church their time and order of service, are as follows: Wm. Smith, one year; J. Tasker, preached one year; Adams, six months; Rev. H. Maynard finished the year; S. P. Walden, one year; Jas. Holmes, six months; removed by Presiding Elder, and Matthias Woodley, finished the year; E. Bunce two years; Nelson Butler Cochran, two years;

S. Dodge, two years; J. B. Bachman, two years; R. Delap, one year; N. Butler, one year; J. S. Hurd, two years; J. D. Searles, two years; B. C. Hammond, one year; J. B. Bachman, one year; J. T. Prior, two years; E. Tasker, two years; T. M. Fullerton, one year; W. H. Kellogg, two years; J. C. Aspinwall, two years. The church edifice was erected in 1853, at a cost of $4,500. Present number of members, one hundred and seventy.

The *Baptist Church* was organized May 26, 1852, by the following elders: Moses Rowley, of Sun Prairie; Joseph Bowman, of Perry; Peter Conrad, of Baraboo; and Charles Perry, of Springfield. Pastors, in their order, have been, Joseph Bowman, O. O. Stearns, H. C. Fuller, and N. E. Chapin, who is at present pastor. This church worshipped in a school house till 1867. In 1866, they built their present house of worship, at a cost of over $4,000 and dedicated it March 13, 1867. Its deacons, in their order, have been Peter VanNess, Alpheus King, William Grow and Freedom Simons. When formed, this church numbered seventeen members. It now numbers nearly one hundred.

The *First Presbyterian Church* was organized by Rev. John N. Lewis, June 20, 1852. The corporate members were James O. Eaton, Mary M. Eaton, Augustus P. Smith, Ann Eliza Smith, Robert Mann, Harriet N. Mann, Esther S. Lewis, Eliza Steele, Sophia Partridge and Sarah Strangeway — ten. Its ministers have been Rev. John N. Lewis, stated supply 1852–1857; Rev. B. G. Riley, stated supply 1857–1863; Rev. D. A. Bassett, 1863–1866; Rev. Warren Mayo, pastor 1866–1872; Rev. J. W. Knott, pastor 1872, and present pastor. Church edifice built in 1857–1871, at a cost of $5,000. Present number of members, two hundred and forty-nine.

A *Universalist Church* was enclosed in 1874, but

has not been completed. There is also a small *Catholic Church* on section 1.

Schools. — The first school was taught in a house erected in 1846, on section 27. The building was a small log house; the school opened in the fall of that year, and was taught by Miss Mary Yockey. The next school house was a frame building erected in 1851, also on section 27. After this time the ordinary common school of the state was organized in different districts throughout the town and served the people till the year 1857. In this year five districts, in and about the village, were consolidated, and a graded school established therefrom. A large and commodious brick building was erected therefor on one of the most commanding sites in the village, at a cost of $10,000; James McCloud, contractor. The first principal of said school, was A. G. Riley; second, L. B. Everdell; third, J. C. Yocum; fourth, A. A. Miller; sixth, the present principal, W. E. Todd.

This school has been, and still is, in a prosperous condition. It is maintained at an annual expense of about $3,000.

The population of the town, at the last census, was 1,448.

Nearly all the people residing out of the village, and some within it, are engaged in farming. They are mostly American born. The adopted citizens are of almost all nationalities.

The buildings of the village are mostly of wood; a few are built of stone and some of brick. By far the most substantial and noticeable business structure is Eaton's block, which is built of stone, and towers above all. It is a fit testimonial of the enterprise of its projector and of his interest and confidence in the town to which he has given the best energies of his life.

With a first class water power, with a railroad and

market, with a population intelligent, enterprising and moral — as shown by its buildings, its schools and its churches — and surrounded by such a country, what shall hinder Lodi from making progress in the future equal to that made in the past?

The writer of this chapter is under great obligations for the information contained in it to Hon. G. M. Bartholomew, Hon. I. H. Palmer, J. O. Eaton, R. Lindsay, Esq., James McCloud, W. M. Bartholomew, Freedom Simons and Rev. J. W. Knott.

Secret Societies.—*Lodi Valley Lodge, No. 99, Free and Accepted Masons:* Jonas Narracong, W. M.; J. E. Parke, S. W.; W. L. Wells, J. W.; J. S. Gardner, S.D.; W. D. Pratt, J. D.; A. Eaton, Treasurer; J. M. Pruyn, Secretary; J. E. Mandeville, Tyler.

*Perseverance Lodge, No. 272, I. O. G. T:* M. M. Mitchell, W.C.T.; Flora L. Dean, W.V.T.; Wm. Slightam, P. W. C. T.; Rev. J. W. Knott, W. C.; Mary L. Tabor, R.S.; Ida Merryman, A.R.S; W. E. Collins, F. S.; Ida Kimball, W. T.; Wilber Blake, W. M.; Ella Bartholomew, D.M.; Harry Irwin, W.G.; Albert Patterson, W.S.; Susie Ayer, R. H. S.; Emma Rathbun, L. H. S.; W. M. Dunlap, L.D.

*Temple of Honor:* J. M. Pruyn, W.C.T.; John Foote, W.V.T.; G. W. Fenno, W. R.; Chas. Goodall, F.R.; W. M. Bartholomew, W. T.; G. M. Bartholomew, W. U.; William Dunlap D.U.; Peter Richards, W.G.; E. Knutesen, W.S.; L. F. Wanner, D.S; L. E. Harris, P.W.C.T.

## EDGERTON.

BY E. A. BURDICK, Esq.

THE village of Edgerton is located on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, 71 miles west from Milwaukee, 1½ miles from Rock river, 26 miles east of Madison, and one mile south of the south line of Dane county, in Town 4, Range 12, on the corners of sections 3 and 4 and 9 and 10. The town site was laid out in the summer of 1853, by Adin Burdick and L. H. Page. The same season H. S. Swift and Dr. C. R. Head also became interested in the town site. The depot was built the same season near the spot where the railroad crossed the Indian trail leading from old Fort Winnebago *via* Koshkonong lake to Chicago, traces of which can now be seen near here. The first store was opened by P. F. Davis, who was soon followed by others, among whom were Stiles Hakes, H. H. Coleman, Charles Clark, S. S. Williams, H. S. Swift, C. C. Root and others. A post-office was established in the fall, with O. D. Peck as P. M.

The first freight shipped here by railroad was on November 25th, 1853. From this date, both freight and passenger traffic by railroad has been good and constantly increasing. For the past ten or twelve years large amounts of leaf tobacco have been shipped from this station, this being the head of the tobacco growing region of Wisconsin; in fact more of this commodity has been bought and shipped from here than from all other points in the state combined. The average amount for several years past has been something over ten thousand cases per year, requiring from two to five hundred thousand dollars each year to handle the crop thus marketed. This, together with the usual products of an ex-

tensive and rich farming country, finds a good market here, and gives this place a high position among the inland business towns of Wisconsin. We have six large tobacco warehouses, which are receiving and handling the article daily, frequently employing quite an army of laborers at remunerative wages.

For grain we have two elevators, besides several small warehouses, and quite an extensive business in the live stock trade. The amount bought and shipped from here will compare favorably with many larger towns.

Our people believe in liberal education, and we have a splendid graded school, managed by an able and competent board, who have spared no pains to obtain thorough and experienced teachers, who are doing a great and good work for the coming generation.

The best interests of the people hereabouts, and the tobacco interest in particular, are carefully watched and championed by the "Wisconsin Tobacco Reporter," a newspaper started here some three years ago by W. F. Tousley, which is well patronized by the public in this vicinity, as its long list of subscribers fully attests. Its present circulation is nearly six hundred. Great pains is taken by the proprietor to give all market reports relating to tobacco throughout the United States, and Wisconsin in particular.

Business Directory.—*Hotels*: American House, W. Clatworthy; United States, H. H. Dickinson. *Pysicians and Surgeons:* B. Burdick, H. H. Judd, S. L. Lord. *Attorney:* J. P. Towne. *Carpenters:* J. Gazlay, T. Warren. *Tobacco dealers:* W. P. Bentley, W. W. and H. W. Child, N. Taylor, Rowe & Taylor, T. Hutson, E. H. Wheeler, Andrew Jensen. *Hardware:* J. D. Hain, G. W Howard. *Blacksmiths:* J. Walter, Halver O. Lintvedt, Burdick & Co., D. B. Springer, D. Green. *Drugs and merchandise:* Dr. Stillman, J. Copley, J. C. Croft & Co.

*Crockery and merchandise:* Mary Riley. *Lumber:* J. I. Lusk, R. R. Brown. *Insurance:* Geo. B. Leonard, E. C. Hopkins. *Merchant Tailor:* J. McIntosh. *Furniture:* W. H. Clark. *Livery:* C. L. Brown, S. C. Humphrey, N. Taylor, H. H. Dickinson. *Wagons and Carriages:* T. L. Stillman, Nelson Loe. Burdick & Co., Halver O. Lintvedt. *Dressmaking:* Mrs. J. A. Johnson. *Millinery:* Wilson & Taylor. *Dry Goods, Clothing and merchandise:* E. W. Babcock, Mabbett & Perry, Jas. Croft. *Boot and Shoemakers:* Jacob Johnson, P. O. Burdick. *Barber:* J. Johnson. *Harness:* J. A. Heritage. *Butchers:* Cordner & Attlesey. *Watchmaker:* John Spencer. *Bakery:* J.N. Moulthrop. *Stock dealer:* P. B. Huntington. *Feed and Flour:* J. McChesney. *Fulton Flour Mills:* White Bros.

CHURCHES.—Methodist Episcopal, Rev. W. D. Ames, pastor. Episcopal Church, Rev. H. Green, pastor. Primitive Methodist, Rev. C. Hendra, pastor. German Lutheran, Rev. John Koerner, pastor. St. Joseph Catholic Church, Rev. Father C. T. Devine.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—A. F. and A. M.; regular communications of Fulton Lodge, No. 69, Free and Accepted Masons, meet in Masonic Hall; C. H. Dickinson, W.M., G. W. Price, Sec'y. I. O. O. F.—Edgerton Lodge, No. 133, meet in their hall over Methodist church; Byron Long, N.G., G.W. Price, R.S. I.O.G.T.—Edgerton Union Lodge, No. 145, meet in Croft's Hall; W. D. Ames, W.C.T., H. H. Judd, W.R.S. P. of H.—Fulton Grange, No. 195, meet at Croft's Hall; R. T. Powell, Master, W. P. Bentley, Sec'y. T. of H. and T.—Guiding Star Temple, No. 109, meets at Croft's Hall; H. H. Judd, W.C.T., H. R. Gwalter, W.R.

E. A. Burdick, merchant and postmaster.

W. F. Tousley, editor and proprietor *Edgerton Tobacco Reporter*

# COUNTY OFFICERS.

# DANE COUNTY OFFICERS.

*1839 to 1877.*

In pursuance of an act entitled "An act to organize the counties of Dane and Fond du Lac," approved Mar. 11, 1839, an election was held at the American Hotel, Madison, on the first Monday of May, 1839, and the following officers elected for Dane county:

*Board of Commissioners.*

***1839-40.*** Eben Peck, chairman, Simeon Mills, Jeremiah Lycan, commissioners; La Fayette Kellogg, clerk (resigned, R. L Ream appointed); John Stoner, treasurer; Robert L. Ream, register of deeds; George P. Delaplaine, county surveyor (resigned, Wm. N. Seymour, appointed); Wm. A. Wheeler, assessor; N. T. Parkinson, sheriff; John Catlin, district attorney; David Hyer, coroner; Isaac Atwood, public administrator; John T. Wilson, auctioneer; Adam Smith, constable.

***August 7, 1839-40.*** Adam Smith, collector; Mahlan Blaker (resigned, La Fayette Kellogg appointed), Wm. N. Seymour, George Vroman, assessors; Ed. Campbell, school inspector; Wm. N. Seymour, district surveyor; Abel Rasdall, constable.

***October 5, 1840-41.*** Simeon Mills, chairman, Eben Peck, Prescott Brigham, commissioners; R. L. Ream, clerk; I. H. Palmer, treasurer; H. F. Crossman, collector (to fill vacancy by resignation of A. Smith); E. M. Williamson, H. W. Porter, David Hyer, assessors; A. Rasdall, constable.

***January 3, 1842.*** Prescott Brigham, chairman, Horace W. Potter, P. W. Matts, commissioners; E. M. Williamson, clerk; Erastus Quivey, treasurer; Ira W. Bird, register of deeds; Calvin Frink, collector; Wm. A. Webb (resigned, George P. Delaplaine appointed), Volney Moore, Nathan Kellogg, assessors; T. M. Wilcox, county surveyor (resigned, E. M. Williamson appointed); A. A. Bird, sheriff; H. C. Parker, constable (app'd).

***1843.*** Wm. D. Daggett, chairman, Wm. A. Wheeler, Solomon Shafer, commissioners; E. M. Williamson, clerk; Erastus Quivey, treasurer (resigned, Darwin Clark appointed); Ira W. Bird, register of deeds; A. A. Bird, sheriff; Calvin Frink, collector; Alex. L. Collins, district attorney.

***1844.*** W. A. Wheeler, chairman, A. W. Dickinson, W. H. Hubbard (resigned, B. F. Collins appointed); S. Catlin, clerk; P. W. Matts, treasurer; Jas. Sullivan, assessor; E. M. Williamson, surveyor; Geo. P. Delaplaine, collector; I. W. Bird, register of deeds; A. A. Bird, sheriff; A. L. Collins, district attorney; Andrus Viall and J. E. Abbott, constables.

***1845.*** E. Brigham, chairman, L. S. Augur, Wm. A. Webb, commissioners; E. M. Williamson, clerk; P. W. Matts, treasurer; E. Burdick, county surveyor; G. T. Long, register of deeds; I. W. Bird, sheriff; T. Daily, W. Rasdall, J. W. Thomas, ass'rs; C. Abbott, dist. att'y; A. B. Catlin, collector.

***January 5, 1846.*** Wm. A. Wheeler, chairman, J. R. Larkin, L. Stone, commissioners; E. Burdick, clerk (appointed in place of E. M. Williamson, resigned); M. S. Van Bergen, treasurer; J. G. Knapp, register of deeds; E. M. Williamson, county surveyor; G B. Smith, district attorney; G. Vroman, J. Meyers, assessors; R. G. Carpenter, N. H. Smith, constables.

The Board of Commissioners having been changed by law to the Board of Supervisors, represented by the chairman from each town in the county, the first session of said board was held on Monday, the 14th day of September, 1846, when the following gentleman appeared as members:

*Board of Supervisors.*

***1846-47.*** Wm. C. Wells, chairman, Ed. Campbell, Jas. R. Larkin, S. Head, A. Barlow, J. Lawrence, R. Boyce (Wm. Quivey acted as substitute for Mr. Boyce, during his sickness, until January 4, 1847).

***1847-48.*** W. C. Wells, chairman, H. L. Bush, W. H. H. Coon (deputy for Wm. Mayhew till January 3, 1848), R. Warden, L. Farnum, D. M. Holt, R,

Boyce, D. Tipple, W. A. Pierce, R. Atwood, C. M. Nichols, J. Vroman, J. Sanders, W. M. Mayhew, W. Boyce.

***1848-49.*** Geo. Anderson, chairman, C. Maxon, W. W. Patrick, E. Brigham, A. Keyes, B. Haney, A. Harris, G. C. Cowen, D. C. Miller, R. P. Rawson (resigned, O. B. Moore elected), J. Vroman, W. C. Wells, C. Lum, T. F. Whittlesey, J. Webb, A. Salsbury, D. Wheeler, J. Lawrence, S. R. Ayers, J. M. Babcock, (deceased, P. Rider appointed); M. Nash, S. Taylor, C. M. Nichols, B. B. Freeman,

***1849-50.*** Berry Haney, chairman, J. J. Clark, Wm. H. Clark, E. Brigham, Chas. Drakeley, Geo. O Babcock, O. B. Moore, S. R. Ayres, L. S. Argur, J. M. Matts, A. Salsbury, J. Lawrence. B. Fairchild, D. Cody, Wm. Barrus, A. A. Boyce, N. P. Spaulding, M. Mallory, W. Brown, D. Thomas, G. E. Cowen (resigned, J. Blake appointed), R. Brown, A. E. Adsitt, J. Nelson, William C. Rood, O. Cook, D. Wheeler, J. Harlow, Charles Bird.

***1850-51.*** Wm. M. Colladay, chairman, I. S. Brown, J. Bowman, G. D. Neal (resigned, D. M. Stillman appointed), J. T. Lewis (substitute for N. H. Dryden during his sickness), W. W. Patrick, R. Brown, M. S. Foster, J. W. Thomas, G. O. Babcock, H. L. Foster, S. Oziah, C. Reeves, H. W. Yager, W. N. Seymour. L. Parmer, C. Lum, J. M. Matts (resigned, N. J. Tompkins appointed), Wm. Dudley, J. Phillips, Z. Gilbert, T. M. Warren, E. Isham, R. Winston, P. Munger, C. Bird, A. A. Boyce, W. Barrus, T. R. Hill, N. P. Spaulding, D. E. Emery.

***1851-52.*** C. Lum, chairman, A. Burdick, T. Haney, M. Ripley, J. Bowman, N. J. Tompkins, C. Reeve, D. Davidson, H. Van Orman, T. Arland, D. C. Miller, A. E. Adsit, O. B. Moore, J. Glott, J. Keenan. L. J. Farwell, (R. T. Davis to fill vacancy), W. Gammon, J. W. Thornton, W. Dudley, (J. Devine to fill vacancy), H. C. Chandler, Z. Gilbert, T. M. Warren, E. Isham, W. Beardsley, R. N. Ashmore, A. Bailey, A. Henry, I. Mann, J. Collins, E. Grover, D. E. Emery.

***1852-53.*** E. Isham, chairman, J. H. Potter, R. W. Denison, T. Steele, R. D. Frost, J. Bowman, J. R. Butler, A. E. Adsit, J. Keenan, J. Webb, W. Gammon, I. M. Bennett, H. C. Chandler, J. Bronte, W. Beardsley, H. Childs, C. Flower, W. Barrus, I. Mann, O. M. Cross, J. Collins, D. E. Emery, A. Smith, R. Brown, H. Van Orman, J. Steele, O. E. McIntyre, C. Barnard, P. Dunning (Mr. Warren to fill vacancy), H. J. Jackson, R. Richards, Mr. Thompson.

***1853-54.*** Calvin Barnard, chairman; J. J. Clark, Thomas Barber, Richard D. Frost, Thos. Steele, Daniel Pickett, John Vroman, Orien B. Hazeltine, Nathan G. Van Horn, W. R. Taylor, Wm. F. Baker, Jas. Steele, A. E. Adsit, Wm. M. Colladay, John Keenan, J. T. Marston, Sardine Muzzy, Elisha Bailey, O. H. Mullette, C. P. Moseley, D. Wheeler, J. C, B. Richards, E. Isham, J.P. McPherson, G.O. Babcock, W. A. Pierce. A. White, D.K. Butler, M. Read, O. M. Cross, D. E. Emery, J. Mosher.

***1854-55.*** Wm. R. Taylor, chairman; J. M. Wood, Thos. Barber, Levi E. Thompson, R. D. Frost, E. Brigham, Daniel Pickett, E. Grover, Jr., G. Dow, J. Read, J. Steele, A. E. Adsit, J. Mosher, Wm. M. Colladay, S. W. Field, J. H. Lewis, L. Hatch, E. Bailey, O. H. Mullette, C. P. Moseley, B. F. Denson, Z. Gilbert, J. Chandler, C. W. Waterbury, H. Bigelow, R. Blackburn, Wm. Beardsley, C. Flowers, J. Beath, J. Poyner, J. Collins, J. C. Pinney, G. Van Gaasbeck.

***1855-56.*** Wm. M. Colladay, chairman; E. Sherman, J. W. Ford, L. E. Thompson, J. R. Hiestand, T. Steele, Wm. A. Field, N. G. Van Horn, H. Catlin, J. Read, A. G. Hadder, L. Knudson, C. Barnard, S. W. Field, H. J. Hill, M. D. Currier, W. Gammons, O. H. Mullette, I. M. Bennett, B. F. Denson, J. A. Johnson, J. La Follette, C. W. Waterbury, S. W. Graves, A. Malone, Geo. Johnson, B. T. Cameron, J. Beath, J. Poyner, L. Ryan, E. Combs, G. H. Van Gaasbeck, E. Grover, Jr., O. M. Palmer.

***1856-57.*** W.M. Colladay, chairman, E. Sherman, C. Laughlin, J. B. Sweat, J.R. Hiestand, T. Steele, W.A. Fields, D.B. Crandall, A. Norman, J. Bryan, A. G. Hadder, A. E. Adsit, J. Allen, S. Nye, H. J. Hill, A. E. Brooks, N. B. Van Slyke, A. S. Wood, S. M. Van Bergen, H. S. Clark, W. Gammons, P. W. Matts, E. W. Dwight, A. Sanderson, J. L. Lewis, Z. Gilbert, I. M. Warren, S. W. Graves, J. P. McPherson, W. Beardsley, C. Bailey, J. Caldwell, S. B. Coryell, M. O'Malley, J. W. Helden, A. A. Huntington, C. G. Lewis, G. Bjornson, H, Jones.

*1857-58.* P. W. Matts, chairman, G. W. McDougal, Chas. Laughlin, S. H. Vedder, R. D. Frost, T. Steele, W. A. Field, C. G. Lewis, I. Brown, W. R. Taylor, J. Bryan, W. J. Welch, W. H. Miller, E. H. Lacy, O. B. Moore, J. Keenan, H. J. Hill, A. E. Brooks, N. B. Van Slyke, C. G. Mayers, S. M. Van Bergen, C. Lum, E. Bailey, R. Boyce. B. F. Denson, J. Chandler, J. A. Johnson, J. Pauly, S. Axtell, J. P. McPherson, Wm. Beardsley, L. H. Pearsons, J. H. Steele, W. D. Stanley, J. Beath, J. Kershaw, J. W. Helden, A. A. Huntington, H. M. Warner.

*1858-59.* J. Beath, chairman, G. W. McDougal, C. Laughlin, J. Greening, R. S. Frost, E. Dale, W. A. Field, C. G. Lewis, N. G. Van Horn, W. R. Taylor, J. M. Hawley, R. Bower, W. H. Miller, E. E. Roberts, O. E. McIntire, J. Keenan, W. D. Bird, T. Heeran, D. J. Powers (resigned, E. S. Oakley appointed), J. G. Griffin. T. Kenney, C. Lum, J. B. Colton, P. W. Matts, M. Wolf, B. F. Denson, N. Randall, J. A. Johnson, S. W. Graves, C. W. Waterbury, O. B. Hazeltine, J. P. McPherson, J. Wiessenborn, L. H. Pearsons, J.C. Steele, D.K. Britton, C.H. Arnold, S.H. Sabine, A. Sawyer.

*1859-60.* A. M. Hanchett, chairman, G. F. Lawton, O. Kerl, W. A. Webb, S. F. Lighthizier, N. H. Dryden, E. Crowell, E. Grover, Jr., J. T. Crandall, E. E. Emerson, J. M. Haney, W. Dunlap, A. E. Adsit, E. E. Roberts, A. L. Beebe, J. E. Mann, T. Reynolds, A. Sherwin, E. S. Oakley, D. Clark, C. Fairchild, L. A. Lincoln, J. B. Colton, P. W. Matts, M. Colby, O. B. Daley, H. M. La Follette, T. B. Ames, C. E. Loveland, F. Ritchie, R. Blackburn, R. Ford, C. Flowers, G. Beatty, J. Beath, H. Cramer, W. Keefe, A. H. Pinney, A. Sawyer.

*1860-61.* T. Reynolds, chairman, L. O. Humphrey, J. W. Ford, H. M. Warner, S. F. Lighthizier, E. Dale, Mr. Adams, Mr. Lewis, W. D. Potter, C. Drakeley, J. Haney, W. Dunlap, L. Torgerson, B. Barnard, A. L. Beebe, J. Keenan, Mr. Zehnpfenning, J. Byer, J. Byrne, Mr. Stickney (O. Park substitute during sickness of Mr. Stickney), A. M. Hanchett, E. Bailey, J. M. Matts, E. W. Dwight, Mr. Sanderson, G. Tollefson, F. B. Ames, S. W. Graves, F. Ritchie, H. Stevens, S. T. F. Ward, C. Flower, G. Beatty, W. Carlton, H. Cramer, J Tiernes, I. N. DeForest, L. G. Shephard, J. M. Gile, F. C. Festner.

*1861-62.* J. P. McPherson, chairman, L. O. Humphrey, J. Bunnagel, O. B. Hazeltine, J. L. Davison, T. Haney, R. W. Davison, A. D. Goodrich, D. B. Crandall, W. R. Taylor, T. Murphy, A. J. Luce, L. Torgerson, H. H. Giles (resigned; W. M. Key appointed), W. M. Colladay, J. Keenan, H. A. Tenney, F. O'Bryan, J. W Sumner, D. Clark, T. Kinney, G. T. Whitney, E. Bailey, P. W. Matts, J. D. Tipple, J. Jones, G. Bjornson, W. Chandler, Z. Gilbert, H. A. Colburn, F. Ritchie, R. Ford, C. Flower, G Beatty, W. Charleton (resigned, J. Beath appointed), H. Cramer. H. J. Benson, I. N. DeForest (resigned, J M. Miller appointed), W. H. Slater, Mr. McBride.

The Board having met under the law providing for the government of the county by district representation, the following gentlemen appeared on the 13th day of January, 1862, and took their seats:

***District Representatives.***

*1862-63.* 1st district, W. M. Colladay; 2d, J. Douglas; 3d, Otto Kerl; 4th, E. Dale; 5th, P. H. Turner. Mr. Colladay, chairman.

*1864-65.* 1st district, F. B. Ames; 2d, J. E. Hidden; 3d, Otto Kerl; 4th, M. Colby; 5th, H. J. Hill. Mr. Colby, chairman.

*1866-67.* 1st district, F. B. Ames; 2d, O. W. Thornton; 3d, Mansfield Arries; 4th, M. Colby; 5th Neely Gray, (deceased, Timothy Brown appointed), Mr. Ames, chairman.

*1867.* 1st district, F. B. Ames; 2d, O. W. Thornton; 3d, D. Schafer; 4th, M. Colby; 5th, Timothy Brown. Mr. Ames, chairman.

*1868.* 1st district, F. B. Ames; 2d, O. W. Thornton; 3d, D. Schafer; 4th, D. L. Daley; 5th, Timothy Brown. Mr. Ames, chairman.

*1869.* 1st district, W. M. Colladay; 2d, O. W. Thornton; 3d, M. Arries; 4th, D L. Daley (resigned, W. C. B. Weltzin substituted); 5th, H. J. Hill. Mr. Thornton, chairman.

*1870, ending March 24th.* 1st district, W. M. Colladay; 2d, H. D. Goodnow; 3d, O. B. Hazeltine; 4th L. M. Anderson; 5th, H. J. Hill. Mr. Hill, chairman.

***1870-71.*** Commencing May 23d, when Board met under the township system of representatives, and the following chairmen of towns and representatives from the wards of Madison, took their seats:

***County Supervisors by Towns and City Wards.***

J. P. McPherson, chairman, L. O. Humphrey, J.C. Fischer, J. Adams, R. D. Frost, J. Mitchell, R. D. Freeman, S. H. Hall, J. E. Johnson, T. Black, T. Murphy, H. H. Brereton, K. O. Heimdall, W. H. Watson, W.T. McConnell, W. D. Bird, H. J. Hill, T. C Bourke, W. T. Leitch, J.M. Bowman, C.G. Mayers, S. Moulton, W.H. Porter, E. Bailey, J. Lyle, J.S. Jackson, L.M. Anderson, S. Halland (resg'd, Mr. Glenhus appt'd), W. Seamonson, J. Brosmer, C. E. Loveland, W. Beardsley, F. Allen, C. Pond, W. H. Chandler, J. Ollis, J. H. Steaman, G. Beatty, W. Woodward, E.A. Spencer, J. Phillips.

***1871-72.*** W. H. Chandler, chairman; O. S. Head, H. Keller, J. McKenzie, A. Morton, O. Hanson, I. W. Haner, S. H. Hall, W. B. West, W. R. Taylor, T. Murphy, H. H. Brereton, A. E. Adsit, R. S. Allen, O. B. Moore, J. Travis, E. E. Bryant, T. C. Bourke, C. H. Billings, A. Herfurth, J. Miller, S. Moulton, W. H. Porter, W. Ankitell, J. W. Norton, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, W. C. B. Weltzin, W. Seamonson, J. Brosmer, S. Divall, J. P. McPherson, N. Martin, J. Norris, C. Pond, J. Ollis, J. Stewart, S. Caldwell, J. H. Tierney, E. A. Spencer, G. Weeks.

***1872-73.*** E. A. Spencer, chairman; W. Short, F. Schuman, J. McKenzie, S. F. Lighthizier, O. Hanson, A. Chipman, T. S. Phillips, J E. Johnson, W. R. Taylor, R. Burns, O. Chipman, P. B. Grinde, G. B. Moore, R. S. Allen, Abel Dunning, P. Barry, M. B. French, C. H. Billings, H. Christoffers, L. D. Stone, S. Moulton (resigned, Mr. Clifford appointed), W. H. Porter, W. Gammon, J. Seeley, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, W. C. B. Weltzin, W. Seamonson, M. Theisen, M. Johnson, N. Martin, J. Norris, C. Pond, J. Gibbons, J. Ollis, J. Stewart, S. Caldwell, J. H. Tierney, J. Johnson, S. Divall.

***1873-74.*** W. R. Taylor, chairman (resigned, P. Baldwin elected); G. B. Huntington, F. Schuman, J. McKenzie, D. Bechtel, O. Hanson, J. M. Haner, A. Smith, S. H. Butler, P. Zander, R. Steele, P. B. Grinde, J. Allen, W. T. McConnell, P. Barry, G. C. Russell, B. M. Minch, J. Rodermund, J. G. Ott, L. D. Stone, G. F. Clifford, J. Hart, W. Gammons, J. Seeley, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, C. Dixon (resigned, Mr. Seamonson appointed), G. T. Mandt, M. Theisen, S. Tusler, M. Johnson (resigned, Mr. Malone appointed,) N. Martin, R. S. Allen, F. L. Warner, W. H. Angell, J. Ollis, H. H. Cornwell, S. J. Caldwell, J. H. Tierney, W. Blanchard, J. Phillips.

***1874-75.*** G. C. Russell, chairman; J. H. Palmiter, W. Stumpf, W. Manwaring, D. Betchel, O. Hanson, A. Chipman, A. Smith, J. E. Johnson, I. Adams, P. Zander, T. Leitch, P. B. Grinde, W. H. Watson, W. Lalor, J. Travis, Thos. C. Bourke, George A. Mason, John Geo. Ott, L. D. Stone, L. Clark, W. H. Porter, W. Gammons (resigned, E. Bailey appointed), J. Lyle, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, E. Pederson, W Seamonson, P. M. Fabing (resigned, M. Theison appointed) S. Tusler, M. Johnson, D. Ford F. Allen, W. H. Slatter, W. H. Angell, R. J. Poyner, J. Stewart, O. M. Helland (resig'd, Mr. Blake appointed), J.H. Tierney, D. Crowley, J. Phillip.

***1875-76.*** G. C. Russell, chairman: J. H. Palmiter, W. Stumpf, W. Manwarring, D. Bechtel, O. Hanson, J. E. Hidden, F. Ritchie, S. E. Billsted, C. Drakeley, H. J. Bolling, T. Leitch, P. B. Grinde, J. E. Wright, J. Sampson, J. McWilliams, William Vallender, John N. Jones, Stephen D. Carpenter, A. Sexton, L. Clark, W. H. Porter (W. Knapton, substitute F. Elver, J. Lyle, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, W. C. B. Weltzin, A. B. Devoe, P. M Fabing, C. E. Loveland, M. Johnson, D. Ford, J. Norris, T. C. Hayden, C. G. Cross, R. J. Poyner, J. Stewart, A. B. Erbe, J. H. Tierney D. Crowley (resigned, O. S. Holum appointed), J. Phillips.

***1876-77.*** G. C. Russell, chairman; J. H. Palmiter, J. C. Fischer, D. D. Logan, D. Bechtel, O. Hanson, J. E. Hidden, F. Ritchie, P. N. Johnson, C. Drakeley, H. J. Bolling, M. L. Boyce, K. O. Himdall, J. E. Wright, J. M. Sampson, D. L. Van Hoesen, J. Hess, Robert Wootton, Stephen D. Carpenter, J. Nader, J. D. Bradford, L. Clark, W. H. Porter, F. Elver. J. Lyle, P. Baldwin, L. M. Anderson, W. C. B. Weltzin (resigned, O. O. Barton app'd), W. B. Atkinson, P. M. Fabing, C. E. Loveland, M. Johnson, D. Ford, J.C. Chandler (resigned, J.Norris app'd), F.L. Warner, C.G. Cross, R.J. Poyner, H. Hathaway, S.J. Caldwell, J.H. Tierney, H.S. Grinde, J. Phillips.

***County Clerks from the date of their election to each successor.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1847*—Elisha Burdick | *1853*—Gabr. Bjornson | *1860*—J. A. Johnson |
| *1848*—Royal Buck | *1857*—E. J. Reuter | *1869*—H. Borchsenius |
| *1849*—Syslvester Giles | *1859*—J. P. M'Pherson | *1873*—W. C. B. Weltzin |

*1875*—Phillip Barry, present incumbent

***County Treasurers from date of election up to their successors.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1847*—J. R. Larkin | *1853*—Wm. D. Bird | *1860*—Wm. Vroman |
| *1848*—Chas. Holt | *1855*—Wm. A. Wheeler | *1865*—L. W. Hoyt |
| *1849*—Wm. W. Wyman | *1857*—E. H. Gleason | *1867*—Wm. Charleton |
| *1850*—Ezra L. Varney | *1859*—Frank Gault | *1871*—Frank B. Ames* |

*1875*—B. M. Minch, present incumbent

[* Deceased, Wm. McConnell elected to fill vacancy.]

***Register of Deeds from date of election up to their successors.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1847*—Ira W. Bird | *1853*—John B. Sweet | *1860*—Andw. Pickarts |
| *1848*—J. D. Ruggles | *1855*—James G. Fox | *1867*—John Gibbon |
| *1849*—Gabriel T. Long | *1857*—C. Cornelnisen | *1871*—John H Clark. |
| *1851*—James G. Fox | *1859*—Fred. Mohr | *1873*—L. J. Grinde |

*1877*—O. S. Holum, present incumbent.

***County Surveyors from date of election up to their successors.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1849*—D. P. Travis | *1860*—T. D. Coryell | *1869*—L. P. Drake |
| *1853*—R. Babbitt | *1862*—P. W. McCabe | *1871*—S. W. Graves |
| *1855*—Wm. H. Hough | *1865*—H. A. Warner | *1875*—John Douglas |
| *1859*—John Douglas | *1867*—C. H. Barton | *1877*—Jas. Melvile |

***District Attorneys from date of election up to their successors.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1849*—Chaun. Abbott | *1859*—E. W. Keyes | *1869*—R. J. Chase |
| *1851*—Geo. B. Smith | *1860*—Henry M. Lewis | *1871*—J. C. McKenney |
| *1853*—Samuel R. Roys | *1862*—C. T. Wakeley | *1873*—Burr W. Jones |
| *1855*—Myron H. Orton | *1865*—Sidney Foote | *1877*—W. H. Rogers |
| *1857*—J. W. Johnson | *1867*—Farlin Q. Ball | |

***Sheriffs from date of election up to their successors.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1849*—P. W. Matts | *1859*—Andrew Bishop | *1869*—B. Hancock |
| *1851*—A. Main | *1860*—Albert Sherwin | *1871*—Andrew Sexton |
| *1853*—P. W. Matts | *1862*—Willett S. Main | *1873*—John Adams |
| *1855*—Andrew Bishop | *1865*—Geo. McDougal | *1875*—J. C. Kiser |
| *1857*—John D. Welch | *1867*—Willett S. Main | *1877*—Wm. Charleton |

*Coroners*—1851, Chas. Wilson 1853-4, Andew Bishop. 1855-6, O. W. Thornton. 1857-8, B. N. Caswell. 1859-60, Alex. Norman. 1860-61, Alex. Stillwell. 1862-5, D. D. Carpenter. 1865-6, William M. Colladay. 1867 to 1872, P. R. Tierney. 1873-4, P. Bacon. 1875-7, John Arians.

***County Superintendents of Poor.***

At a meeting of the board of supervisors, held January 18, 1854, a resolution was offered by Mr. O. H. Mallette, from town of Montrose, that three superintendents of county poor be appointed; one to hold office for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, which was adopted, and on the 19th the board proceeded to ballot for candidates with the following result:

1854-6—Wm. R. Taylor. 1854-5—James P. McPherson. 1854—Elijah Isham.

Each election thereafter being for three years, commencing in January and ending December, the following gentlemen have been elected to the office:

1855-7—Geo. Dow 1856-8—J. P. McPherson 1857-9—W. R. Taylor 1858-60—H. M. Warner 1859-61—Peter W. Matts 1860-2—W. R. Taylor 1861-3—H. M. Warner 1862-4—P. W. Matts 1863-5—W. R. Taylor 1864-6—H. M. Warner. 1865-7—P. W. Matts 1866-8—W. R. Taylor 1867-9—H M. Warner 1868-70—W. W. Tredway. 1869-71—Wm. R. Taylor, (resigned, O. W. Thornton elected to fill vacancy) 1870-2—H. M. Warner 1871-3—T. E. Bird 1872-4—O W. Thornton 1873-5—H. M. Warner (deceased. J. McKenzie elected to fill vacancy) 1874-6—T. E Bird 1875-7—J. E. Mann 1876-8—John McKenzie 1877-9.

THE following named persons have been the successive judges of the county court of the county of Dane, from its organization up the present time, which has been kindly furnished us by the Hon. Gabriel Bjornson.

### *County Judges.*

Hon. I. H. Palmer, of Lodi, Columbia county, was the first acting county judge; but only signed one order as such, dated June 20th, 1840.
Hon. A. Botkin was next judge, dating from Nov. 28, 1842, to May 1, 1843.
William W. Wyman became county judge from June 1, 1843, to Jan. 4. 1845.
Jesse A. Clark, from April 12, 1845, to December 31, 1846.
E. B. Dean, Jr., from January 1, 1847 to December 31, 1848
Daniel B. Snedden, from January 1849 to end of December of the same year
Hon. John Catlin, from January, 1850 to October 28th of the same year
Hon. N. B. Eddy from November 4th, 1850, to July 3d. 1854
Hon. Julius P. Atwood, from July 6th, 1854, to December 31st, 1856
J. G. Knapp, from January 5th, 1857, to April 20th of the same year
D. C. Bush, from April 23d, 1857, to April 13th, 1858
Hon. S. R. Roys, elected April, 1857 for term of 1858, but died in fall of 1857
Hon. Thos. Hood, to fill the above vacancy, from April 16, 1858, to Dec. 31, 1865
Hon. Geo. E. Bryant, from Jan. 1, 1866, to December 31, 1877, when his successor, Hon. Alden S. Sanborn, will commence his term, January 1, 1878

### *Clerks of County Court.*

The clerks successively employed in said court were: Daniel Noble Johnson, Chas. Reese, T. J. Widvey, Benton McConnell, Richard Randolph, Gabriel Bjornson, Miss Hattie Bryant (now Mrs. Loomis), sister of Judge Geo. E. Bryant; and M. B. French. Of those, Mrs. Loomis served the longest time, to wit, six years, and Gabriel Bjornson, the present clerk under Judge Bryant, the next longest time, five years, he having served from 1864 to the 31st day of December, 1865, under Hon. Thos. Hood, and commenced service under Judge Bryant, April 1st, 1874.

THE following list of clerks of the circuit court, has been kindly furnished us by the Hon. Wm. A. Wheeler, deputy clerk.

### *Clerks of Circuit Court.*

***Oct. 7th, 1839.***—Simeon Mills, appointed by Judge Irvin.
***Nov. 10th, 1847***—Elisha Burdick, appointed by Judge Irvin.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***1853***—Charles Lum. | ***1861***—J. J. Starks. | ***1869***—Geo. W. Stoner. |
| ***1855***—Frank H. Firman | ***1863***—Carl Habich. | ***1871***—L. D. Frost. |
| ***1857***—Myron T. Bailey. | ***1865***—H. A. Lewis. | ***1873***—L. D. Frost. |
| ***1859***—Lucius Fairchild | ***1867***—H. A. Lewis. | ***1875-7***—Bernard Esser. |

### *County Superintendents of Schools.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *11th Senate District* | *2d District.* | 1872—O. J. Taylor |
| 1862—B. A. Barlow | 1863—S. L. Hookerr | 1874-6—M. S. Frawley. |
| *26th District.* | 1868—S. H. Carpenter | *1st District* |
| 1862—E. Kelly (except Madison) | 1869—Isaac Kierstad | 1868—J. Q. Emery |
| *1st District.*—1872-4—W. H. Chandler | 1870—S. C. Cooledge | 1870 - Theo. D. Kanouse |
| | | 1876—A. R. Ames |

---

## MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES.

### *Council from 1838 to 1848.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1838-42—E. Brigham | 1843-4—Lucius I. Barber<br>1847-8—A. L. Collins | 1845-6—John Catlin |

### *Representatives from 1838 to 1848.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1838-40—D.S.Sutherland | 1845—Chas. S. Bristol | 1847—Wm A. Wheeler |
| 1840-2—Lucius I. Barber | Noah Phelps | Chas. Lum |
| Jas. Sutherland | Geo. H. Slaughter | John W. Stewart |
| 1842-4—I. H. Palmer | 1846—Mark R. Clapp | 1847-8—E. T. Gardner |
| L. Crossman | Wm. M. Dennis | Alex. Botkin |
| Robert Masters | Noah Phelps | John W. Stewart |

### *Constitutional Conventions.*

The following were members, for Dane county, of the first constitutional convention, assembled at Madison, October 5th, 1846, and adjourned in December, of the same year, after having framed a constitution. This constitution was rejected by the people at the election in April, 1847:

John Y. Smith, Abel Dunning, Benjamin Fuller, Geo. B. Smith, Nathaniel F. Hyer, John Babcock.

SECOND CONVENTION.

On the 15th of December, 1847, a second convention met, and framed a constitution that was adopted by the people in March, 1848. The following gentlemen were members for Dane:

Chas. M. Nichols, Wm. A. Wheeler, Wm. H. Fox.

### *Senate from 1848 to 1877.*

*9th District.*
1848—Simeon Mills.
1849-50—Alex. Botkin.
1851-2—E. B. Dean, Jr.
*11th District.*
1853-4—T. T. Whittlesey.
1855-8—Hiram H. Giles.
1859-60—Wm. R. Taylor.
1861-2—Sam'l C. Bean.
1863-6—W. H. Chandler.
1867-8—C. E. Warner.
1869-70—N. Williams.
1871—Wm. M. Colladay.
*26th District.*
1857—Hiram C. Bull.
1858-9—And. Proudfit.
1860-1—John B. Sweat.
1862-3—B. F. Hopkins.
1864-5—Thos. Hood.
1866-7—Jas. K. Proudfit.
1868-9—Carl Habich.
1870-7—R. E. Davis.
*7th District.*
1872—Wm. M. Colladay.
1873-4—J. A. Johnson.
1875-6—Geo. E. Bryant.
1877-8—Geo. B. Burrows

### *Members of Assembly, from 1848 to 1877.*

1848.—Henry M. Warner, Ebenezer Brigham, Samuel R. Roys.
1849.—Charles Rickerson, Ira W. Bird, Samuel R. Roys.
1850.—John Hasey, Chauncey Abbott, Oliver B. Bryant.
1851.—Abram A. Boyce, Augustus A. Bird, Gabriel Bjornson.
1852.—Alex Botkin, Hiram H. Giles, William A. Pierce.
1853.—M. Roache. H. Barnes, Storer W. Fields, P. C Burdick, H. L. Foster.
1854.—Samuel H. Baker, H. Barnes, H. S. Orton, P. W Matts, C. R. Head.
1855.—L B. Vilas, J. Mosher, S. G. Abbott, G. P. Thompson, W. R. Taylor.
1856.—Augustus A. Bird, Geo. A. P. Thompson, Augustus A. Huntington, Wm. M. Colladay, Chas. R. Head
1857.—John A. Johnson, Robert W. Davison, Robt. P. Maine, John B. Sweat, Horace A. Tenney, Natl. W. Dean.
1858.—Daniel B. Crandall, John W. Sharp, Storer W. Field, Henry K. Belding, Frank Gault, Alex. A. McDonell.
1859.—Wm. M. Blackman, Adam Smith, John Keenan, Chest. N. Waterbury, Harlow S. Orton, Geo. B. Smith.
1860.—Wm. M. Blackman, Eleazer Grover, Jr., John Beath, Francis Fischer, Leonard J. Farwell, Cassius Fairchild.
1861.—Sereno W. Graves, W. H. Chandler, Edward W. Dwight, Fred. A. Pfaff. Dominick O'Malley, David Atwood.
1862.—B. F. Adams, W. H. Chandler, A. S Sanborn, N. M. Matts, E. Jussen.
1863.—Chas. R. Head, W. H. Miller, A. S. Sanborn, Geo. Wright, Geo. Hyer.
1864.—W. M. Blackman, W. H. Miller, A. S. Sanborn, G. Wright, Geo. B. Smith.
1865.—Wm. M. Colladay, A. A. Boyce, David Ford, John S. Frary, Jas. Ross.
1866.—W. D. Potter, J. M. Flint, G. H. Slaughter, W. Charleton, B. F. Hopkins.
1867.—Isaac Adams, J. M. Flint, Frank Gualt, Hugh Cathcart, E. Wakeley.
1868.—N. Williams, Knute Nelson, Frank Gault, G. Tollefson, L. B. Vilas.
1869.—J. E. Johnson, Knute Nelson, J. Adams, Andw Henry, Geo. B. Smith.
1870.—C E. Loveland, W. H. Chandler, J. Adams, J. R. Crocker, A. S. Sanborn
1871.—L. O. Humphrey, K. O. Heimdal, M. Anderson, O. Torgerson, H. S. Orton
1872.—Benjamin F. Adams, John D. Gurnee, John Adams, Phineas Baldwin.
1873.—Oliver W. Thornton, Levi B. Vilas, Otto Kerl, Hiram H. Cornwell.
1874.—John Johnson, Philo Dunning, John B Kehl, Michael Johnson.
1875.—Isaac Adams, S. U. Pinney, David Ford, Michael Johnson.
1876.—Wm. Seamonson, Wm. Charleton, Peter Zander, Michael Johnson.
1877.—Michael Johnson, Phineas Baldwin, Geo. Weeks.

# VILLAGE AND CITY OF MADISON.

### *Village of Madison from 1846 to 1856.*

***1846.*** Thomas W. Sutherland, *president;* Eliab B. Dean, Jr., Peter W. Matts, Barlow Shackleford, Alonzo Wilcox, Wm. N. Seymour, and James Morrison, *trustees;* J.T.Clark, *clerk;* D. Clark, *treasurer;* A.Vial, *marshal.*

***1847.*** A.L. Collins, *president;* D.B. Snedden, Benj. Holt, Wm. Puncheon, Wm. Welch, Chester Bushnell, and N. H. Smith, *trustees;* J.R. Brigham, *clerk;* N. S. Emmons, *assessor.*

***1848.*** A. L. Collins, *president;* J. C. Fairchild, J. P. Mann, Chauncey Abbott, William Puncheon, Henry C. Parker, Daniel Mallo, *trustees;* J. R. Brigham, *clerk;* I. W. Bird, *treasurer;* A. Main, *assessor.*

***1849.*** A. L. Collins, *president;* J. T. Clark, N. S. Emmons, J. D. Ruggles, D. H. Wright, *trustees;* A. Vial, *treasurer;* T. Reynolds, *marshal.*

***1850.*** W. N. Seymour, *president;* B. Holt, S. Mills, D. H. Wright, A. A. Bird, *trustees;* G. M. Oakley, *treasurer;* W. O. Wells, *marshal;* E. M. Williamson, *assessor.* [Mr. Stoner appears as a trustee in May 6, 1850.]

***1851.*** Simeon Mills, *president;* L. J. Farwell, A. A. Bird, Wm. Welch, H. A. Tenney, David H. Wright, *trustees;* E. Burdick, *clerk;* Darwin Clark, *treasurer;* Jas. Richardson, *assessor;* A. Bishop, *marshal.*

***1852.*** Chauncey Abbott, *president;* H. A. Tenney, F. G. Tibbets, E. L. Varney, P. H. Van Bergen, M. Friend, *trustees;* Robt. L. Ream, *clerk;* J. J. Starks, *treasurer;* J. D. Welch, *marshal;* A. Bishop, *assessor.*

***1853.*** H. A. Tenney, *president;* F. G. Tibbets, L. Cannon, Casper Zwickey, A. Wilcox, D. Atwood, B. F. O'Brien, *trustees;* W. Welch, *clerk;* J. J. Starks, *treasurer;* L. W. Hoyt, *assessor;* A. Manning, *marshal.*

***1854.*** Simeon Mills, *president;* P. H. Van Bergen, Geo. C. Albee, G. M. Oakley (C. Weed to fill vacancy of Oakley), M. Friend, Jas. Livesey, A. Bishop, *trustees;* D. N. Johnson, *clerk;* M. Cleary, *treasurer;* D. C. Bush *assessor;* I. E. Brown, *marshal.*

***1855.*** P. H. Van Bergen, *president;* L. J. Farwell, L. W. Hoyt, Wm. Carroll, John G. Griffin, H. A. Tenney, J. Sumner, *trustees;* D. N. Johnson (Wm. N. Seymour, unexpired term), *clerk;* Alonzo Wilcox, *treasurer;* D. C. Bush, *assessor;* I. E. Brown, *marshal.*

### *City of Madison, 1856 to date.*

***1856.*** Jairus C. Fairchild, *mayor;* Wm. N. Seymour, *clerk;* Johnson J. Starks, *treasurer;* Arthur B. Braley, *police justice; street superintendent* (senior alderman); Fred Mohr, *marshal;* Daniel R. Coit. *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor. Aldermen*—1st w., A. E. Brooks, T. Heeran, A Kraez; 2d w., N. B. Van Slyke, J. N. Jones, D. J. Powers; 3d w., C.G. Mayers, P H.Van Bergen, (resigned, W. F. Baker elected), A. S.Wood; 4th w., S. M.Van Bergen, Joseph Hobbins, Timothy Kinney.

***1857-8.*** A. A. Bird, *mayor;* W. N. Seymour, *clerk,*(disabled by a stroke of paralysis, S.H. Carpenter elected 1857, resigned 1858); F. Sauthoff, *treasurer;* Arthur B. Braley, *police justice; street superintendent* (senior alderman); Andrew Bishop, *chief of police;* Abbott, Clark & Coit, *city attorneys;* William M. Hough, *city surveyor. Aldermen*—1st w., Abiel E. Brooks. Thomas Heeran, Casper Zwickey; 2d w., Napoleon B. Van Slyke, D. J. Powers, J. T. Clark, (resigned); 3d w., C. G. Mayers, J. G. Griffin, D. R. Hyer; 4th w., S. M. Van Bergen, T. Kinney, Jos. Hobbins.

***1858-9.*** Geo. B. Smith, *mayor;* Henry Wright, *clerk;* James K. Proudfit, *treasurer;* Arthur B. Braley, *police justice*; Simeon Mills, *street superintendent;* S. U. Pinney, *city atto'y;* W. M. Hough, *city surveyor*, (deceased, L P. Drake elected); H. K. Edgerton, *city assessor. Aldermen*—1st w. Thomas Heeran, A. Sherwin, Simeon Seckles; 2d w., David J. Powers-Eri S. Oakley, James Jack; 3d w., John G. Griffin, Darwin Clark, Christian Henrichs; 4th w., T. Kinney, C. Fairchild, P. L. Dowling.

***1859-60.*** Geo. B. Smith, *mayor;* Chas. Geo. Mayers, *clerk;* Andrew Sexton, *treasurer;* Arthur B. Braley, *police justice;* John Shealey, *chief of police;* Simeon Mills, *street superintendent*, (resigned, W. Knight elected); John R. Baltzell, *city attorney;* J. A. Ligowiski, *city surveyor;* H. Wright, *city assessor. Aldermen*—1st w., A. Sherwin, John Zelmpfenning, William Dudley; 2d w., Eri S. Oakley, Joseph Bayer, William Hawley; 3d w., Darwin Clark, Fred. C. Festner, Ezra C. Squires; 4th w., Cassius Fairchild, John A. Byrne, Joseph Hobbins.

***1860-1.*** G. B. Smith, *mayor;* C.G. Mayers, *clerk;* J.C. Schettle, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *police justice;* J. A. Slavin, *street superintendent* (resigned, F. S. Van Bergen, elected to fill office of *chief of police* and *street superintendent;*) C. Ainsworth, *city attorney;* P.W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* David H. Wright, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., J. Zehnpfenning, F. O'Bryan, P.H. Turner; 2d w., J. Bayer, J.W. Sumner, D.K. Tenney; 3d w., F.C. Festner, D. Clark, K. Tierney; 4th w., J. A. Byrne, T. Kinney, J. Y. Smith.

***1861-2.*** L. B. Vilas, *mayor;* C. G. Mayers, *clerk,* (resigned, Wm A. Hayes elected): F. C. Festner, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *police justice;* F. S. Van Bergen, *street superintendent and chief of police;* Levi P. Drake, *city surveyor;* George H. Barwise, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., Farrel O'Bryan, G. E. Bryant, (resigned), Peter H. Turner; 2d w., J. W. Sumner, Daniel K. Tenney, J. Adler Ellis; 3d w., Darwin Clark, Kyron Tierney, John George Ott; 4th w., Timothy Kinney, Geo. B. Seekles, J. Y. Smith.

***1862-3.*** Wm.T. Leitch, *mayor;* Wm. A. Hayes, *clerk;* Fred. B. Hutching, *treasurer;* C. Ainsworth, *police justice;* Andrew Bishop, *street superintendent and chief of police;* Wakeley & Vilas, *city attorneys;* Levi P. Drake, *city surveyor;* Peter H. Turner, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* — 1st w., John Kavanaugh, (resigned, E. B. Dean, Jr., appointed), G. Grimm; 2d w., D. K. Tenney, (resigned, J. H. Carpenter elected), T. E. Bird, A.C. Davis; 3d w., K. Tierney, C. W. Heyl, W. M. Rasdall, Jas. Ross; 4th w., G. B. Seekles, (resigned, John Dunn elected), Ed. C. Kavanaugh, Chas. H. Luce,

***1863-4.*** W. T. Leitch, *mayor;* W.A. Hayes, *clerk;* C. W. Heyl, *treasurer;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* C. Ainsworth, *police justice;* Chas. T. Wakeley, *city attorney;* A. Bishop, *street superintendent and chief of police;* P. H Turner, *city assessor.* (resigned, F Mohr appointed). *Aldermen* —1st w., E. B. Dean, Jr., J Monaghan, J. Zehnpfenning; 2d w., T.E. Bird, J H Carpenter, H M. Lewis; 3d w., C. W. Heyl, (resigned, K Tierney elected), J. Ross, J. T. Stevens (resigned, H. Winkler elected); 4th w., E. C. Kavanaugh, H. N Moulton, (resigned, T. Kinney elected), J. Hobbins, (resigned, J. M Dickinson elected)

***1864-5.*** Wm. T. Leitch, *mayor;* Wm. A. Hayes, *city clerk,* (resigned, S.H. Carpenter elected); C. W. Heyl, *treasurer;* J. M. Flower, *police justice;* J. B. Hyland, *street superintendent and chief of police;* J. R. Baltzell, *city attorney;* P. McCabe, *city surveyor;* J. Reynolds, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., J. Monaghan, A. Wald, E. Sprague, (resigned, A.B. Braley elected); 2d w., J.H. Carpenter, H.M. Lewis, T. Brown; 3d w., J. Ross, K. Tierney, E. Doerschlag; 4th w., T. Kinney, J. M. Dickinson, G. D. Lincoln.

***1865-6.*** Elisha W. Keyes, *mayor;* S. H. Carpenter, *clerk;* John Reynolds, *treasurer;* James M. Flower, *police justice;* H. W. Tenney, *city attorney;* Ira W. Bird, *street superintendent and chief of police;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor,* (resigned, L. P. Drake elected); Wm. T. Leitch, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., A.Wald, A. B. Braley, J. Heeran; 2d w., H. M. Lewis, L. S. Ingman, J. Corscot; 3d w., K. Tierney, E. Sprague, A. Herfurth; 4th w., J. M. Dickinson, (resig'd, S.U. Pinney elected), T.W.Gibbs, J.J. Starks

***1866-7*** Elisha W. Keyes, *mayor;* S. H. Carpenter, *clerk;* S. V. Shipman, *treasurer;* John R. Baltzell, *police justice;* C. G. Mayers, *city assessor;* I. W. Bird, *street superintendent;* Benj. F. Larkin, *chief of police;* C. T. Wakeley, *city attorney;* Levi P. Drake, *city surveyor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., Arthur B. Braley, James Conklin, Hannibal Lacher; 2d w., L. S. Ingman, Henry M. Lewis, John Corscot; 3d w., Ebenezer Sprague, Kyron Tierney, B. M. Nienaber; 4th w., T. W. Gibbs, G. W. McDougal, (did not qualify, W. Abeel, elected), L. D. Stone, (resigned, J. C. McKinney elected).

***1867-8.*** Alden S. Sanborn, *mayor;* S. H. Carpenter, *clerk;* G. Memhard, *treasurer;* John R. Baltzell, *police justice;* A. Bishop, *street superintendent;* W. Hickey, *chief of police,* (resigned, J. Shealey appointed); C. T. Wakeley, *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* T. C. Bourke, *city assessor.* *Aldermen* —1st w., J Conklin, Robt Nichols, S. Engel; 2d w. Henry M. Lewis, Myron T. Bailey, A. Riley Jones; 3d w., Kyron Tierney, H. Christoffers, P.B. Kissam; 4th w., L.D. Stone, H.N. Moulton, S. Foren.

***1868-9.*** D.Atwood, *mayor;* S.H. Carpenter, *clerk,* (resig'd, J. Corscot elected); J. Conklin, *treasurer;* J. R. Baltzell, *police justice;* A. Bishop, *street superintendent;* J. W. Tolford, *chief of police;* A. B. Braley, *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* T. C. Bourke, *city assessor.* *Aldermen*—1st w., R. Nichols, S. Engel, (resigned, F. Daubner elected), A. McGovern; 2d. w., M. T. Bailey, R. Wootton, H. Steensland; 3d. w., H. Christoffers, P. B. Kissam, Ole Thompson; 4th. w., H. N. Moulton, L. D. Stone, A. S. Frank.

***1869-70.*** Andw. Proudfit, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* W. Habich, Jr., *treasurer;* J. R. Baltzell, *police justice;* Andrew Bishop, *street superintendent;* T. C Botsford, *chief of police;* A. S. Sanborn, *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* N. L. Andrews, *assessor;* A. Kœnig, *pound master. Aldermen:* 1st. w., G. Anderson. D. K. Tenney, F. Daubner; 2d w., A. R. Jones, (resigned, W. Deards elected), M. T. Bailey, R Wootton; 3d w., H. Winckler, J. M. Bowman, P. B. Kissam; 4th w., S. Foran. P. Young, L. D. Stone.

***1870-1.*** Andw. Proudfit, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* Andrew Pickarts, *treasurer;* John R. Baltzell, *police justice;* Andrew Bishop, *street superintendent;* J. Shealey, *chief of police;* A. S. Sanborn, *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* N. L. Andrews, *assessor. Aldermen*—1st w., F. Daubner, F. O'Brien, G. Anderson; 2d w., Walter Deards, A. Daubner, M. T. Bailey; 3d w., J. M. Bowman, W. H. Karnes, H. Winckler; 4th w., J. Ross, H. N. Moulton, S. Foren.

***1871-2.*** Jas. B. Bowen, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* John Lewis, *treasurer;* J. R. Baltzell, *police justice;* And. Bishop, *street superintendent;* Chas. C. Hammer,* *chief of police;* Jos. C. Ford, *city attorney;* P. W. McCabe, *city surveyor;* N. L. Andrews, *assessor;* W. J. Manning, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., James Conklin, Henry Vilas, Fred Daubner; 2d w., A. Daubner, C. P. Chapman, Walter Deards; 3d w., J. G. Ott, W. H. Karnes; J. M. Bowman; 4th w., Thos. Dean, Estes Wilson, James Ross.

***1872-3.*** Jas. H. Hill, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* Chas. G. Mayers, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *police justice;* Levi P. Drake, *street superintendent and surveyor,* (resigned, A. Bishop appointed); J. C. Ford, *city attorney;* W. T. Leitch, *assessor;* W J. Manning, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., E. Cook, G. Bunker, J. Conklin; 2d w., R. Wootton, C.P Chapman, A. Daubner; 3d w., F. M. Dorn, J. Lewis, J. G. Ott; 4th w., A. Webster, E. Wilson, Thos. Dean.

***1873-4.*** J. C. Gregory, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* W. Farrell, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *police justice;* Andrew Bishop, *street superintendent;* Chas. K. Tenney, *city attorney;* Wm. T. Leitch, *assessor;* Isaac Smith, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., George Bunker, John Heeran, E. Cook; 2d w., C. P. Chapman, A. Daubner, R. Wootton; 3d w., H. Kleuter, Darwin Clark, F. M. Dorn; 4th w., Andrew Sexton, Thos. Dean, Estes Wilson.

***1874-5.*** Silas U. Pinney, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* Gottlieb Grimm, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *municipal judge;* Jas. Quirk, *city surveyor;* A. Bishop, *street superintendent and chief of police;* C. K. Tenney, *city attorney;* W. T. Leitch, *assessor;* E. Squires, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., Geo. Bunker, Geo. Memhard, Thos. Hayden; 2d w., C. P. Chapman, W. K. Barney, T. B. Worthington; 3d w., Darwin Clark, Frank M. Dorn, H. Kleuter; 4th w., A. Sexton, P. L. Spooner, Jr., M. P. Walsh.

***1875-6.*** S. U. Pinney, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* Thos. P. Coyne, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *municipal judge;* James Quirk, *city surveyor;* A. Bishop, *street superintendent and chief of police;* Chas. K. Tenney, *city attorney;* W. T. Leitch, *assessor;* Ezra Squires, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., Henry Oakey, Thos. Hayden, Geo. Memhard; 2d w., A. S. Sanborn, A. Frederickson, T. B. Worthington; 3d w., C. F. Bicderstaedt, Darwin Clark, Wm. Welch; 4th w., P. L. Spooner, Jr, M. P. Walsh, Peter Young.

***1876-7.*** John N. Jones, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* R. J. McConnell, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *municipal judge;* John Nader, *surveyor and street superintendent;* Frank M. Dorn, *chief of police;* ——, *city attorney;* Theo. Herfurth, *assessor;* J McEvily, *pound master. Aldermen*—1st w., W. T. Fish, Geo. Memhard, Alex. Gill; 2d w., A. S. Sanborn, S. A. Hale, J. E. Rhodes; 3d w., C. F. Bierstaedt, Ernst Mueller, Wm. Welch; 4th w., M. P. Walsh, Dan. Campbell, W. J. L. Nicodemus; 5th w., Jas. Conklin, Jacob Silbernagel, H. Oakey.

***1877-8.*** H. S. Orton, *mayor;* John Corscot, *clerk;* M. J. Cantwell, *treasurer;* A. B. Braley, *municipal judge;* John Nader, *surveyor;* Andrew Bishop, *street superintendent and chief of police;* Charles K. Tenney, *city attorney;* C. G. Mayers, *assessor;* J. McEvily, *pound master.* Aldermen—1st w., W. A. Booth, W. T. Fish, Jos. Schweinem; 2d w., John Lamont, Wm. Habich, Jas E. Rhodes; 3d w., W. H. Lansing, Ernst Mueller, Aug. Ramthun; 4th w., John Hayes, W. J. L. Nicodemus, A. M. Daggett; 5th w., Jacob Silbernagel, James Conklin, N. H. Dodge.

# HIRAM G. DODGE

DEALER IN

ANTHRACITE COAL.

*BITUMINOUS COAL.*

CANNEL COAL.

*BLOSSBURG COAL.*

CHARCOAL.

MAPLE WOOD,

*OAK WOOD.*

FINE SALT.

COARSE SALT.

DAIRY SALT.

NEW YORK STUCCO.

MICHIGAN STUCCO.

*ROSENDALE CEMENT.* *AKRON CEMENT.*

**THE CELEBRATED PEWAUKEE WHITE LIME.**

FIRE BRICK. FIRE CLAY.

WHITE AND RED BRICK.

*Land Plaster and Plastering Hair.*

EAST MADISON.

---

GRAIN, STORAGE AND COMMISSION.

WEST MADISON.

---

**ELEVATOR AND GRAIN OFFICE,**

*On Washington Avenue, near Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Depot.*

**COAL YARD OFFICE,**

*Corner of Main and Blount Streets, near the Gas Works.*

# WILLIAM J. PARK & CO.

## Booksellers, Stationers, Binders, Rulers, and Blank Book Manufacturers,

AND DEALERS IN

*WALL PAPER, CORNICE,*
*WINDOW SHADES, CORD,*
*PICTURES, PICTURE FRAMES, TASSELS,*
*FANCY GOODS, ARTISTS' MATERIALS,*
*SHEET MUSIC, VIOLINS, ACCORDIONS, GUITARS,*
*AND ALL OTHER MUSICAL MERCHANDISE.*

**Pianos and Organs for Rent by the Month; also old ones taken in Exchange for new.**

Organs Repaired on short notice. Agents for WILSON SEWING MACHINE; also for the DAVIS SEWING MACHINE. Full Stock always on hand of

*SCHOOL BOOKS, STANDARD WORKS.*

Miscellaneous Books, Bibles, Prayer Books, Chromos, Engravings, and everything kept by a first-class Book and Music Store

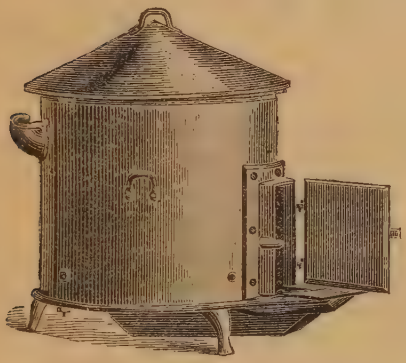
**WM. J. PARK & CO.**

*11 King Street, Madison, Wisconsin.*

SLATER & BALL,

# FOUNDERS AND MACHINISTS,

MADISON, WISCONSIN,



COMBINED FURNACE AND KETTLE.

MANUFACTURE

**Well Drilling**

MACHINERY

AND

**Agricultural Goods.**

*The Slater Cultivator.*

# MADISON MUSEUM.

*A RARE COLLECTION OF LIVING AND STUFFED SPECIMENS OF ANIMATED NATURE.*

NEW ADDITIONS FREQUENTLY MADE.

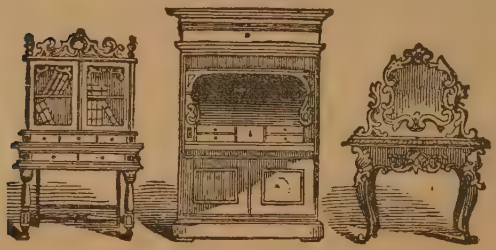
Entrance through the bird store, opposite north corner of the Park, on Mifflin and Pinckney streets. Customers Free.

# D. CLARK,

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

# FURNITURE,

215 MAIN STREET, MADISON, WIS.



## THE OLDEST, MOST RELIABLE

Having sold more Goods than any other establishment of the kind in the City, and now offers the

*LARGEST AND MOST COMPLETE ASSORTMENT*

Comprising everything possible for a family to want, in his line of goods, to be found in Madison.

---

CHAMBER SUITS, PARLOR SUITS,

*Dining Room, Office and Library Furniture,*

WOVEN WIRE MATTRESSES, BED SPRINGS,

*KITCHEN FURNITURE, ETC.,*

**At Prices Lower than any other House in the City.**

UPHOLSTERING AND REPAIRING FURNITURE,

Done in Good and Substantial manner.

*LIVE GEESE FEATHERS ALWAYS ON HAND.*

# ARTISTIC PHOTOGRAPHY.

*The Very Best Made.*

Comparison as to Work Challenged.

## N. P. JONES,

*MILLS' BLOCK, MAIN ST., - MADISON. WIS.*

J. A. JOHNSON, *President.* HALLE STEENSLAND, *Secretary*

## HEKLA
## FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF MADISON, WISCONSIN.

| | |
|---|---|
| CASH PAID UP CAPITAL, - | $160,000.00 |
| ASSETS OCTOBER 1, 1877, - - | 220,000.00 |

This Company has a re-insurance fund of $50,000 00 deposited with the State Treasurer, for the protection of the insured.

☞ The funds of this Company are not sent out of the State, but are kept at home and loaned to the patrons of the Company on REAL ESTATE SECURITY, at legal rate of interest.

THE PERFECTION OF MOWING MACHINES.

## Meadow King MOWER

**Improved for 1878.**

The MEADOW KING has no side Draft, no weight on the horses' necks, no cogs in the drive Wheels, IT IS A FRONT CUT, and therefore there is no danger of accident by falling in front of the finger-bar. In short, while the MEADOW KING does not belong to what are called cheap mowers, still, it is cheaper in the long run, even though it cost a trifle more than some other mowers at first, because it will do more work, last longer, run lighter, and cost less for repairs. Thus proving that

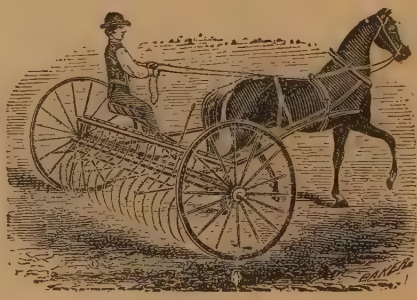
"THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST."

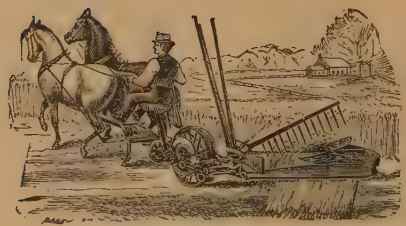
---

*The Old Reliable*

## Hollingsworth Rake

60,000 Now in Use.





THE

## LEADER

**No. 1,**

AS A REAPER.

A Wrought Iron Frame, both Tilting and Lifting Levers.

It has a Wrought Iron Frame, and is Guaranteed to do Better Work with less power than any other Reaper.

The LEADER cuts six feet wide, has a Steel Finger Guard, with Steel Plated Malleable Guards, with one Knife and one Sickle.

S. L. SHELDON,

*Madison, Wis.*

# WISCONSIN

# STATE JOURNAL,

ESTABLISHED IN 1849,

*DAILY, TRI-WEEKLY AND WEEKLY.*

## OFFICIAL STATE PAPER.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AT THE CAPITAL.

**TERMS:**

| | |
|---|---|
| DAILY, per annum, in advance, - - | $10 00 |
| TRI-WEEKLY, per annum, in advance, - - | 5 00 |
| WEEKLY, per annum, in advance, - - | 1 50 |

Any person who will send five subscribers to either the Daily, Tri-Weekly or Weekly, with the cash, at regular subscription rates, will receive a sixth copy gratis.

We propose to make the STATE JOURNAL the best Family and Political Paper in the State. We have the rarest facilities for giving interesting matter pertaining to State affairs, and every opportunity will be improved to make the paper valuable to its subscribers.

**SUBSCRIBE FOR THE STATE JOURNAL.**

Connected with the JOURNAL office, we have the most complete

## JOB OFFICE AND STEREOTYPE FOUNDRY

in the Northwest, and are always prepared to turn out the very best Book and Job Printing that can be done in this country.

*DAVID ATWOOD,*
Madison, Wis.

# EXLNT

# PLOWS.

LOOK AT

## THE CAPITAL CITY CLIPPERS,

MANUFACTURED BY

FIRMIN, BILLINGS & NOÉ

AT

## MADISON PLOW WORKS.

---

We Challenge Comparison of our Improved Clippers,

Light or Heavy Styles, Wood or Steel Beams, Single or Double Shins, High, Low or Medium Landsides, *with any and all other* Plows brought to this market, both as to Quality and Price. We call particular attention to our Splendid

## *STEEL BEAM PLOWS,*

*Which cannot be beaten.* Also to our

## LIGHT PRAIRIE PLOWS,

Which are GOOD and CHEAP. And to our

"OLD RELIABLE"

## FULL CLIPPER PLOWS,

*With Extra High and Thick Steel Landsides.*

Which excel all other makes or kinds for Strength, Durability and Variety of Work. Our Breaking Plows, Sod Plows, Corn and Hop Plows, *cannot be surpassed for Wisconsin soils.*

Call at the Factory and Examine our Plows for Yourselves, before Buying. We are selling first-class Plows at Bargains to Dane County Farmers, and Repair all kinds of Plows *in the most skillful and workmanlike manner, at* FAIR RATES.

**TRY US.**